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REPORT SHOWS MOST OF OUR OFFICERS ARE HIDDEN IN BACKROOM ROLES

Just 10 per cent of our police out on the streets

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

KENT Police Authority says it will be "watching" Chief Constable Ian Learmonth after force figures revealed a startlingly low number of available frontline officers.

According to a report by Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Constabulary (HMIC), Kent Police has an average of just under 10 per cent of staff in visible roles on the streets at any one time – the third lowest figure in the country.

That means the vast majority not employed in back office positions are tied up in court hearings and training courses, or are off-shift, on annual leave or sick.

In comparison, Merseyside Police recorded the highest number of available frontline officers – classed as those who are "in everyday contact with the public and who directly intervene to keep people safe and enforce the law" – with 17 per cent.

KPA chairwoman Ann Barnes said the authority was disappointed with Kent's figures and would make sure Mr Learmonth delivers improvements this year.

She said: "We know from our research that the public wants to see more officers on the frontline and a reduction in officers in desk jobs. That is why our restructure, planned over four years, will result in 500 more officers being put into neighbourhood policing, out on the streets playing a vital role in keeping our communities safe.

"Each year the authority sets targets for the force, holding them to account for their performance. This year we set an objective to

Continued on page two

IS THIS THE END OF STACK?

For full details see inside

Rights for children

A BACKBENCH MP is spearheading a campaign to make it a legal right for children to know both their parents.

Dover representative Charlie Elphicke, one of Kent's newest MPs, raised the issue while introducing his Children Bill in Parliament.

He said he wanted to make sure there was a "clear and enforceable right" of a child to grow up knowing both their mother and father.

FULL STORY – SEE PAGE 8

OAP travel battle

A CAMPAIGN has been started to warn of the damaging impact changes to free travel could have on vulnerable people.

Protesters from Campaign for Better Transport said changes to the timetable for elderly and disabled pass holders could leave some at risk of social exclusion.

It followed the announcement by Kent County Council limiting free travel times.

FULL STORY – SEE PAGE 5

Is course on par?

AS PART of our build-up to this summer's Open Championship we were given access to Royal St George's this week.

Along with PGA professional Chris Aked we look at condition of the course in Sandwich and the changes made since it last hosted the tournament in 2003.

FULL STORY – SEE SPORT

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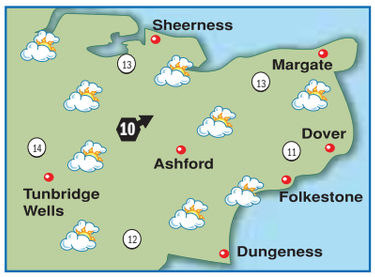

TODAY: Mostly dry with periods of sunshine, hazy at times, although there will be a chance of the odd shower developing later. Moderate south-westerly winds. Max temp 12-15C (54-59F). **TONIGHT:** Mostly dry, with clear spells and variable cloud. Gentle westerly winds. Min temp 5-8C (41-46F).

Around Britain

		°C	°F			°C	°F
Aberdeen	fair	12	54	London	cloudy	15	59
Belfast	fair	11	52	Liverpool	fair	12	54
Birmingham	fair	15	59	Manchester	fair	13	55
B'mouth	fair	14	57	Newcastle	sun	13	55
Bristol	fair	12	54	Norwich	fair	16	61
Cardiff	fair	14	57	Oxford	cloudy	15	59
Cork	showers	11	52	Southsea	fair	13	55
Edinburgh	sun	11	52	S'hampton	fair	14	57
Glasgow	showers	10	50	Southport	fair	11	52
Isle of Man	fair	10	50	Swansea	fair	11	52
Leeds	fair	12	54	Torquay	fair	13	55

Sun & moon

Sunrise 6.27am Sunset 7.31pm
Moonrise 5.54am Moonset 7.52pm
Lighting up times: 7.31pm to 6.25am

High Tides

	today				tomorrow			
	ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)		ht (m)	
Dover	–	–	12.05	6.3	00.16	6.5	12.34	6.3
Margate	00.43	4.6	13.09	4.5	01.15	4.6	13.36	4.5
St Mary's	05.33	5.4	17.49	5.4	06.03	5.5	18.18	5.4

Week ahead

monday Sunny periods. max13C min6C
thursday Sunny and warm. max19C min6C
tuesday Showers. max15C min7C
friday Some sun. Warm. max20C min6C
wednesday Rather cloudy. max17C min7C
saturday Sunny periods. max18C min5C

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Printed by Archant Print.

Visible policing on our streets 'only one element' of keeping us all safe

Continued from front page

increase the number of officers and staff defined as frontline, and we will be watching and making sure the chief constable and the force delivers.

"We're confident that with this measure, and our restructure plans, Kent Police will remain a high performing force that offers value for money."

Kent Police is currently battling to save £50 million over the next four years due to a 20 per cent cut in government funding.

About 1,500 jobs are on the line as a result, including 500 officers and 1,000 support staff.

However, Prime Minister David Cameron insisted this week that there was no reason why the budget cuts should result in fewer frontline police nationally.

Mr Learmonth criticised the HMIC report for not taking into account other officers who contribute to policing in Kent.

He said: "The measure of visibility is a one-size-fits-all approach that does not take count of nearly 1,000 uniformed Kent officers and staff engaged in highly visible specialist functions such as neighbourhood task teams.

"We also have 300 uniformed officers involved in ports policing who are seen by more than 30 million people from Kent and beyond but are not counted in these statistics as visible.

"Policing is a complex business, and for example the work of our serious crime directorate – the largest in the country – might not be visible but its results in taking criminals off the streets of Kent certainly are.

"Visibility is certainly important but it is only one element of policing and there is much more all police forces have to do, much of which cannot be visible, in order to effectively fight crime."

As part of the planned restructure of the force, it is proposed that Kent's six existing policing areas be merged into the three larger districts of east Kent, west Kent, and Medway/north Kent.

As a result of the shake-up, relatively trouble-free areas like Sevenoaks may lose some of its bobbies to crime hotspots like Gillingham and Margate.

Mr Learmonth said: "We are implementing changes to our policing structure that will continue to deliver a first class service in the face of the significant financial challenges ahead, and I have always been clear that I will continue to prioritise the frontline in that restructure.

"We welcome the report's attempt to define frontline policing, and the fact it states that we are operating at the upper end of the efficiency range."

Meanwhile, the KPA has promoted Assistant Chief Constable Alan Pughsley to the rank of Deputy Chief Constable.

Mr Pughsley took over the role on a temporary basis in January but has now landed the post full time. He replaces former deputy Adrian Leppard, who is now commissioner of the City of London Police.

Disclosure law opens sex offenders' list to parents

By **STEVE KNIGHT**
steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

SARAH'S Law has been introduced in Kent to give parents the right to expose paedophiles living in their communities.

The law – officially known as the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme – means members of the public can ask police to disclose an individual's criminal record if they fear their child may be at risk.

It is named after murder victim Sarah Payne, who at the age of just eight was murdered in a field by convicted paedophile Roy Whiting, in July, 2000.

Det Supt Maria Shepherd said: "We are determined to do everything possible to protect children and families from harm in our communities.

"The implementation of the Child Sex Offender Disclosure Scheme is a major step forward in our ability to protect children from sex offenders.

"It is important to state that we already have a robust system for the management of sex offenders, but this new scheme will build on that.

VICTIM: Eight-year-old Sarah Payne was killed by a convicted paeodphile in 2000

"It provides a formal mechanism for empowering families and others in helping to protect children."

Kent is one of the last forces to join the scheme following a 12-month pilot across four constabularies in 2008, which was then rolled out to a further 20 between August and November last year. The law was introduced following a campaign spearheaded by the News of the World newspaper in response to the murder of Sarah Payne, whose killer is currently serving life in prison.

Its aim was for the Government to allow controlled access to the Sex Offenders' Register so parents could know if a convicted paedophile was living in their area.

But police will only divulge information about an individual if they are satisfied he or she poses a risk to a particular child.

NSPCC spokeswoman Diana Sutton said: "It's good the disclosure pilots have helped to protect children but the Government needs to tread cautiously.

"The Home Office must continue to monitor the impact of the roll-out on local child protection arrangements and communities.

"We remain concerned about the risk of vigilante action and sex offenders going underground. All new schemes need close management and proper resourcing to avoid this.

"Not all child sex offenders have criminal records and are known to police. We urge people to contact the NSPCC helpline on 0808 800 5000 if they are worried about someone's behaviour towards a child and are unsure whether or not to contact the police."

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Harry's polar trek with wounded war veterans

PRINCE Harry has joined a team of war veterans injured on duty for a record-setting trek to the North Pole, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Led by former Kent schoolboy Simon Daglish, the team face temperatures as low as -50C while pulling 100kg in sleds along terrifying ridges and dangerous open water in severe weather.

And just because Prince Harry is third in line to the throne – and expected to attend the Royal Wedding in less than four weeks – he won't be receiving any special treatment.

The 26-year-old has already been up to his neck in icy water while on aqua training in Norway in Svalbard, Europe's most northerly piece of dry land before the polar ice cap.

Although severe conditions have set the start of the trip back a few days, the nine-strong team was expected to arrive at the starting point of the 300-mile trek on Friday.

The Walking with the Wounded expedition, which was organised by the charity's founders Simon Daglish and Ed Parker, is expected to last four weeks, although Prince Harry will have to leave early in preparation for the wedding of his brother Prince William to Kate Middleton on April 29.

Making up the team are soldiers who were injured in Afghanistan. Guy Disney, 28, lost his right leg after being hit by a rocket-propelled grenade in 2009; Jaco Van Gass, 24, lost his left arm in 2009; Steve Young, 28, suffered a fractured vertebrae in his back the same year; and Martin Hewitt, 30, suffered a paralysed right arm after being shot.

If they complete the expedition, they will enter the record books as the first amputees to reach the North Pole.

They are joined by Mr Parker, 45, Henry Cookson, 35, Inge Solheim, 36, and Mr Daglish, a former pupil at Duke of York's Royal Military School, Dover.

LOOK NORTH: Prince Harry, inset, in training alongside the Walking with the Wounded team

The 45-year-old, who now lives in London, co-founded Walking with the Wounded to finance new qualifications, courses and further education for seriously injured soldiers.

The target for the trek is £2 million.

Mr Daglish said: "These wounded men and women will soon fade from the headlines, but their injuries will forever be with them as they try to rebuild their lives.

"Walking with the Wounded will be my little way of saying 'thank you', while raising funds needed to help these brave people back into some sort of normality. The military can sometimes be hard. It is unlike any other career, the only one that licenses you to kill – and be killed," he said.

"Having said that, you don't join the Army for this. You join out of a strong sense of belonging, of doing a job that requires selfless giving, and a unique level of teamwork. That has not been forgotten. It is now up to those who are no longer serving to help those less fortunate and who have given so much under that sense of selfless duty."

Prince Harry, who is patron of Walking with the Wounded, will trek with the team for five days, when he will return to the UK to continue his training with the Army Air Corps and prepare for the Royal Wedding.

See walkingwiththewounded.org.uk/donate to make a donation.

TV appeal over father's murder

AN APPEAL for information into the unprovoked murder of a Sittingbourne man was aired live on Crimewatch on Thursday.

Father-of-two Adrian Milner, 48, died in hospital on January 9 after being punched and hitting his head on the ground, in Church Road, Murston.

Detectives hope the appeal on the BBC TV show, which included CCTV footage of Mr Milner's final walk alongside interviews with family members, would jog people's memories.

POLICE are warning bird fanciers in Sheerness after more than 100 birds were stolen in a series of thefts.

There have been six incidents since the beginning of the year and four in the last month.

The stolen birds include red factor canaries, diamond doves, zebra finches, and 60 to 70 canaries taken in one raid. Two cockerels and a hen have also been taken.

Det Con Gary Seamark said: "I urge owners to be vigilant and secure their aviaries. They can also invest in additional security such as sensor lighting or CCTV to deter offenders."

To see this search 'Dench' @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Yourkenttv caught up with Dame Judi Dench when the actress visited Hever Castle

We're no party poopers

KENT is topping the national list of Royal Wedding street parties – despite a showing of just 60 applications.

The up-to-date figure is expected to rise and even though an increase of just six applications was seen in the past week, the county council is hopeful Kent will be the one to fly the flag for the great British street party.

Cabinet member for highways, Cllr Bryan Sweetland, said Kent was at the top of the list due to a commonsense approach, where KCC agreed to waive charges and reduce paperwork for parties on quiet residential roads and cul-de-sacs to toast the Royal nuptials of Prince William and Kate Middleton on April 29.

WEDDING BELLS: Kate and Wills

"This just goes to prove what cutting through red tape can do," he said. "More and more I would like to see our highways policy governed by three basic key tests: is it safe, is it legal, and is it affordable?"

He added: "All of us at KCC wish the royal couple a very enjoyable wedding day."

Despite Kent's positive outlook, the number of road closure applications for street parties across the UK made for dreary reading.

Cambridgeshire had the second highest number at 32; followed by Milton Keynes with 27; South Gloucestershire 24; and Bromley 23.

In Kent, Ashford and Swale boroughs had just one application each; Canterbury had two; Sevenoaks three; Gravesham, Dartford and Thanet four each; Shepway five; Royal Tunbridge Wells six; Tonbridge & Malling and Dover seven; and Maidstone 10.

The unitary authority of Medway has seen just four, although the council has extended the deadline to Friday, April 8.

Robin Cooper, Medway's director of regeneration, community and culture, said: "Interest in the Royal Wedding is growing and we want to make sure anyone who wants to hold a street party doesn't miss out."

Malcolm Wells, secretary of the Royal British Legion (Downs) Social Club, is arranging a party for 60 people in Deal.

Asked if he was surprised to be the only street party in Deal, he said: "I had not thought about it being the only one, but I am sure other people will be celebrating in their own way."

For the Silver Jubilee in 1977 and for Charles and Diana's wedding in 1981 hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets to celebrate.

To apply for a road closure before County Hall's deadline on April 15, visit www.kent.gov.uk/roads_and_transport.aspx or call 08458 247 800.

For Medway, contact the council's traffic department on 01634 333333 or email traffic.management@medway.gov.uk for an application form.

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‘Vulnerable face isolation if free travel is cut back’

CAMPAIGNERS pushing to save bus services have warned of the damaging impact changes to free travel could have on vulnerable people, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Protesters from the Campaign for Better Transport say adjustments to the timetable for elderly and disabled pass holders could leave some at risk of social exclusion.

It followed the announcement by Kent County Council that it could no longer afford to fund free bus travel from 9am on weekdays, and the start time would be pushed back to 9.30am.

It means passengers entitled to subsidised transport will now have to pay if they wish to travel before 9.30am on Monday to Friday.

A council spokesman said for the past three years KCC had provided additional funding to allow pass holders to travel from 9am, but with a significant reduction in Government grants, this was no longer possible.

Concessionary

“As a result, KCC will operate a national standard scheme,” he said.

“This means passes will be accepted from 9.30am to 11pm on Monday to Friday and all day at weekends and on bank holidays.”

Changes to the concessionary travel scheme started on Friday, April 1.

Sophie Allain, bus campaigner at Campaign for Better Transport, urged the Kent community to put forward their views for the Save Our Buses movement.

She said: “Although half an hour may not seem much, it’s important to remember that in rural areas we’re talking about buses coming once an hour, or worse, once every two hours.

“This can change the day of elderly or disabled people. Having passes running from 9am helps people get out and stay active, it helps them get to a doctor’s appointment and can stop them becoming socially excluded.

“People who make these decisions to cut services don’t understand fully the impacts these changes could have.

Minimum

“They’re cutting the bus service right back to the minimum.”

The Campaign for Better Transport is urging people to submit their comments to help the organisation build a case against the cuts.

“Kent County Council is in a difficult position, and decisions like this are there to be made,” said Ms Allain.

“But buses should not just be an easy cut to make. It can create a false economy where money has to be spent later, when people need more help.

“Our campaign looks to show Government the impact these cuts will have. We want to empower people to have a say on this.”

Ms Allain said combining factors such as council and commercial bus cuts and the 20 per cent slash to the fuel tax rebate for buses could mean £100 million in funding lost from the network.

“Buses could be tipped into a spiral of decline from which they will struggle to recover.”

Anyone wishing to join the campaign can visit www.bettertransport.org.uk/campaigns/save-our-buses.

County escapes major losses in arts funding

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

ARTS organisations throughout Kent have been spared the brunt of a £100 million cut in government funding.

More than 200 groups across the UK learned this week that they would not be receiving a share of the remaining £1.4 billion available through Arts Council England.

But the majority of Kent applicants were satisfied with their three-year settlements for 2012-15, with the county achieving the best share of funding in the South East.

Successful organisations include the Turner Contemporary gallery in Margate, which will receive £1.7m over three years, and Stour Valley Arts in Ashford, which will see an 83 per cent increase to £360,000.

Kent County Council’s cabinet member for communities, Cllr Mike Hill, said: “Kent has achieved the best settlement in the South East and we believe this acknowledges the ambition and resourcefulness of Kent’s passion for arts and culture.

“Some organisations will fear they have lost out by not being successful and so our arts development unit will work closely with any who now feel they need additional support.”

The arts groups that will continue to receive funding will be known as National Portfolio Organisations, and will use the investment to develop their own work while sharing their expertise with others.

Picture: TIM STUBBINGS

WINNER: The Canterbury Festival will receive £450,000 in funding over three years

One such NPO will be the Canterbury Festival, which will receive £450,000 funding over the three years in question.

Director Rosie Turner said: “We are very pleased and relieved that the Arts Council has awarded us a generous amount of funding, which represents an uplift of 36 per cent on our previous core funding position.

“It means the festival will be able to continue to provide high quality international arts events during October.”

The Propeller Theatre Company and People United, both also based in Canterbury, are among the charities due to receive Arts Council England cash for the first time.

However, the future looks bleak for the Maidstone-based Disability Arts Development Agency (Dada) South, which will lose all of its funding from 2013.

Dada director Stevie Rice said: “We have heard time and time again about the Arts Council’s commitment to diversity, so to withdraw essential funding from organisations working to represent and support diverse artists and their practice is inexplicable.”

Arts Council England said it had not followed an “equal cuts for all” policy and had made decisions on a case-by-case basis.

Find more news and sport updated daily online
www.kentnews.co.uk

Little birds’ big news for survey

SMALL birds are making a comeback in Kent according to the 20,000 people who took part in this year’s Big Garden Bird Watch.

Breeds including the long-tailed tit, coal tit and goldcrest were the worst affected by the harsh winter of 2009-10, but their numbers were up in the county this year.

Organised by the RSPB, the Bird Watch revealed that starlings are the most commonly seen in Kent gardens, followed by house sparrows and blue tits.

Visit www.rspb.org.uk/hfw for more details about the survey.

To see this clip search ‘wildlife’ @ yourkenttv.co.uk

Yourkenttv’s Julie Maddocks finds out about the dedicated work of the Kent Wildlife Trust

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FRENCH Caen stone will be delivered to Canterbury Cathedral on a horse and cart this weekend.

The stone, used by the Normans to build the cathedral, will travel the same medieval route used by countless traders over the centuries.

It will travel arrive at Sandwich on Saturday, April 2, and be transported by boat up the River Stour to Fordwich.

From there it will travel three miles by horse and cart to the cathedral for a Service of Thanksgiving and Dedication.

The Jurassic limestone will be incorporated into the conservation work at the cathedral.

THE INTERVIEW

BY ED HILL

Artist finally shows etchings

ART has been a major part of Joyce Marriott's life since she was 16, but it was not until her later years that she was able to pursue her passion for etching.

The 86-year-old from Thanet trained at Croydon College of Art during World War Two.

She said: "I came from an artistic family. I lived in Blackburn and was halfway through a degree when the art school closed because of the war. My aunt lived in Croydon and said why don't you come down here to train?

"It was an entertaining move, because there was a lot of bombing at that time, but the college did carry on through the war. I remember going into London one day on the train and as we crossed the Thames a massive bomb dropped nearby. The whole carriage rocked and we thought we would end up in the water. Fortunately, it staggered into Victoria Station and we all got out with our knees shaking."

Unfortunately for Joyce, etching was off the curriculum.

She said: "Because of the bombing, the acid needed for etching was considered too hazardous to have around."

After graduating she was offered a job at the advertising giant JW Thompson, but because of the war effort decided to take up teaching.

Retirement

For the next 40 years it was her main occupation, in diverse places including Africa and Ford Open Prison.

She said: "I went to Uganda with my husband under an education scheme and became a mother of three lovely girls.

"We taught there for 10 years, then came back to this country and I continued teaching until I reached retirement."

Sadly for Joyce, her husband, John then suffered a severe stroke, which meant much of her time was spent caring for him. It was around this time she had the chance to discover etching for the first time.

She said: "Just before I retired I went to two etching classes. A friend of mine gave me a shed and I found an old mangle and started using it as a press. Eventually I got a proper press and started etching more carefully."

Because of her husband's condition, Joyce's art was mainly a pastime, but she continued to explore and develop her own style.

Inspired by cartoonists such as David Lowe, she has created simple line drawings on a diverse range of themes.

She said: "I was brought up with cartoons. My father was passionately political and liked people like David Lowe, who satirised Hitler."

Etching became Joyce's main passion and it gave the spritely pensioner a new lease of life, developing her work.

She said: "It is a lovely process. It gives you a kind of jerky line and you get unexpected outcomes. Sometimes a little bit of ink it can give the impression of something like a cloud. The best thing is that you can repeat the process. You can try different things every time you make a copy and select the ones that you think really work."

Since her husband died in 2004, Joyce has been able to devote more time to her art. She has built up a growing reputation and her work has been exhibited not only in Kent but also at the Barbican in London and in galleries in Paris, Germany and for the British Council in Malta.

Now her etchings can be seen at The White Horse Inn at Boughton-Under-Blean. Pub manager Tara Birks had worked with Joyce for an exhibition in Ramsgate and knew she wanted to have her pictures on her walls.

Joyce said: "I am delighted that Tara remembered my work. The pub has connections with Chaucer and ghosts so I think I might get inspired by them."

Joyce said: "Etching has been the joy of my life. When I got fed up with things I could go into my shed and it was my own paradise."

Joyce's work will be on display at the White Horse Inn until the summer.

• ***See www.whitehorsecanterbury.co.uk for more information.***

PASTIME: Artist Joyce Marriott's etchings cover a range of subjects and styles, inspired by political cartoonists and life around her

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Survey gives thumbs up to doubling daylight saving time

ALMOST half of Kent residents support putting the clocks forward by another hour, according to a new survey.

Despite losing an hour of sleep last weekend, research by energy firm npower suggests support is growing for a move to the SDST (single double summertime) system proposed in the Daylight Saving Bill.

Such a change would result in the clocks going forward an extra hour to Greenwich Mean Time (GMT) +1 in winter, and GMT+2 in summer.

Basing its research on a survey of 3,000 Kent residents, npower revealed that opposition to SDST had dropped dramatically from 47 per cent last October to just 27 per cent in March. Forty-three per cent are now in favour of the change while 30 per cent are unsure.

Npower spokeswoman Emily Stagg said: "It's interesting to note the significant shift in opinion since our last research. This could very well be attributed to Brits enduring five months of dark mornings and evenings and longing for the return of British summertime last week.

"One of the main reasons for the fall in opposition is the promise of lower electric bills. However, it may still be some time before SDST becomes legislation."

A bill requiring the Government to conduct analysis of the costs and benefits of shifting the clocks forward received MPs' initial approval in December. However, the proposal was not included in the Government's recent tourism strategy, despite reports it would be.

Visit Kent chief executive Sandra Matthews-Marsh is among those backing a change to SDST, claiming the extra hour would be good for tourism in the county, giving us more evening time to enjoy.

Daylight saving was first proposed in the UK by Bromley builder William Willett (1856-1915), whose suggestion was supported by future Prime Minister and Westerham resident Winston Churchill.

'It's time to solve Operation Stack'

A HIGH-LEVEL summit has been called to find a resolution to Operation Stack chaos and end the traffic misery of Kent's motorists, ***writes Marijke Cox***.

Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins told KoS the meeting was vital in reaching a solution to the problem that has been plaguing drivers for the past two decades.

"There have been no serious discussions like this for years and I think if everyone is in one room, around a table, looking at all the options, things can move forward," he said.

Kent Police's Chief Constable Ian Learmonth, County Hall leader Cllr Paul Carter and the heads of Dover, Ashford and Shepway councils will be attending the meeting on July 8, along with MPs and representatives for the Channel Tunnel and ferry companies.

"This is the right time to sit down and solve the problems associated with Operation Stack," said Mr Collins, who called for the discussions. "We need to find a workable solution."

PARKED: Operation Stack blocks the M20

Operation Stack involves parking lorries on the M20 between junctions 11 (Hythe) and 12 (Cheriton), with cars directed along the A20.

During severe disruption of cross-Channel travel, phase two is implemented which sees lorries also parked between junction eight (Maidstone) and junction nine (Ashford).

Operation Stack causes the roads around Dover, Shepway and Ashford to become gridlocked, which has led to a subsequent loss of business for local firms. Delays also cost the UK's haulage companies £1 million a day.

Mr Collins said issues such as the way lorries are booked onto ferries must be considered.

"At the moment ferry companies don't necessarily take freight on a first come first serve basis, they take them on bookings," he said. "This is something that must be looked at."

Mr Collins said the lorry park plan at Aldington, near Sellindge, would no doubt be raised at the meeting.

Kent County Council first proposed the creation of a dual purpose Operation Stack and overnight lorry park near the M20 three years ago. Plans were for lorries to be directed to wait at the site when there were disruptions to cross-Channel services.

The overnight park would be able to hold 500 lorries and if Operation Stack was in place, an overflow area would hold an additional 2,500 HGVs.

Kent Police and the Freight Transport Association supported the proposals.

But there was fierce opposition from residents in Sellindge and Aldington who formed the Lorry Park Alliance Group.

Government then announced in January it would not fund the £35m expected to cover the costs of the park.

KCC may now look to draw up a new plan which could see costs reduced, but still see the park located at Aldington.

The county's branch of Campaign to Protect Rural England, Protect Kent, however, suggested last month that the lorry park be built on reclaimed land near Dover.

Chairman of the group Richard Knox-Johnston said around 6,000 freight vehicles could be held in a carefully-designed facility with minimal impact on the environment.

The upcoming meeting, which is being held at Shepway District Council, will see representatives from the different groups debate the various options.

Mr Collins added: "I'm encouraging the community to write to me with ideas so we can look at those at the meeting."

• ***To send in your views email damian.collins.mp@parliament.uk or write to Damian Collins at House of Commons, London, SW1A 0AA.***

Pay fund protest

UNION members have protested against plans to remove £2.25 million from Kent County Council's fund for 'pay progression'.

The proposal could result in some staff earning less in performance-related pay increases, but KCC says the available money will instead be prioritised for its lowest-paid workers.

Unison and GMB members demonstrated outside County Hall in Maidstone on Monday, saying the move will effect the local economy because there will be less for staff to spend.

Cllr Roger Gough, cabinet member for business strategy and support, said: "We value all employees and the contribution they make.

"We are taking very difficult decisions in response to this year's financial settlement and believe this is a sensible and pragmatic way to minimise redundancies.

"The proposed changes will allow us to reward staff as fairly and appropriately as we can while meeting the savings we need to make."

Sporting legacy

STUDENTS are being encouraged to take up or get back into sports thanks to National Lottery funding.

Canterbury Christ Church University has secured £174,053 from Sport England to encourage more people to take up sports as part of the mass participation legacy from the London 2012 Olympic and Paralympic Games.

The Try Sport project will provide a variety of sporting activities to help improve student participation, with qualified coaches holding sessions in archery, badminton and hockey, among others.

Dr Andrew Balsdon, Christ Church's director of sport, said: "Our aim is to work in partnership with national bodies and local providers, especially sports clubs, where we can integrate our students into playing sport in the community while they are studying."

Children 'must have right to know both their parents'

By **MARIJKE COX**

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A BACKBENCH MP is spearheading a campaign to make it a legal right for children to know both their parents.

Dover and Deal representative Charlie Elphicke, one of Kent's newest MPs, raised the issue while introducing his Children Bill in Parliament on Tuesday. He said he wanted to make sure there was a "clear and enforceable right" of a child to grow up knowing both their mother and father.

"There are three million children who live apart from a parent in the UK, about one million of whom have no contact with the non-resident parent three years after separation," he said.

"Too often people say it is about mums' rights or dads' rights, but actually it is about the rights of a child to know and have a relationship with both their parents.

"That is the nub of what the bill is about. It is not right that parents should sink their children's rights to know them in a sea of acrimony when they split up."

Mr Elphicke's proposals are contained in a Ten Minute Bill, which is unlikely to progress into law unless the Government decides to throw its weight behind the measure. MPs use the device as a way of gaining publicity for an issue.

In a timely coincidence to Mr Elphicke's plea, on Thursday new legal powers were granted to grandparents to guarantee them access to their grandchildren in the event of divorce. Separated parents will be expected to make sure grandparents continue to play a part in the children's lives.

IN THE MIDDLE: Children should have a legal right to know both parents in the event of a split, says Charlie Elphicke MP

To support his bill, Mr Elphicke referred to a soldier who was told by a judge he was "unreasonable" for wanting to see his six-year-old daughter – who was at the centre of a contact battle between the parents – before being deployed to Afghanistan.

"In January, he applied for a specific order so he could see his daughter before he went to serve his country and possibly not come back," said Mr Elphicke.

"The judge said it was unreasonable of him to ask and he should wait until October, 2011, before the court would resume proceedings [of the original contact case]."

Mr Elphicke, who stressed this was not just about fathers but mothers too, also gave an example of one of his own constituents.

"Mr G of Dover writes to me, saying: 'I understand as they are my children I should help towards their upbringing, but surely this should not just involve paying my ex money and only speaking to them on a Sunday morning for 30 minutes."

Mr Elphicke said putting the Bill before the House of Commons was to send a message to the Children and Family Court Advisory and Support Service; "weak-kneed" judges; and parents with residence orders, that it is about children's rights to grow up knowing both their parents.

An argument raised in response to the bill focused on the welfare of a child in relation to domestic violence.

But campaign group Families Need Fathers praised Mr Elphicke. Chief executive Craig Pickering said: "I am very glad Charlie is contributing to this debate. The Government's review of family justice will affect children and parents for decades to come."

The bill will be considered for a second time on Friday, May 13.

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Town gallery named after Sgt Pepper album artist

THE man behind the famous cover art for the seminal Sgt Peppers Lonely Hearts Club Band album has had a gallery named after him in Gravesend, ***writes Chris Murphy***.

The Blake Gallery in the Civic centre is named after Sir Peter Blake.

The artist is best known for designing the cover of The Beatles LP, pictured left.

Now his gallery is welcoming its first visitors, after officially being opened by Gravesham Borough Council's director for communities Melanie Norris.

It's an obvious location for the gallery – Sir Peter went to art school in the town for five years.

Sadly, he was not able to be at the opening, but does have plans to visit soon, the council said.

He said: "The fact that I was at art school in Gravesend from 1946-1951 makes it a town that I regard with great affection.

"Culture in all its forms is a vital part of life and public access is tremendously important. I have always found museums and galleries to be enriching sources of inspiration and I'm delighted that Gravesham Borough Council has chosen to name this space after me."

Sir Peter, 78, was born in Dartford and had his first solo exhibition in 1960. He went on to become an icon of British pop art.

He has often complained he was only paid a £200 flat fee for the Sgt Pepper cover, and no royalties.

Of the new gallery, Ms Norris said: "This is a fantastic new facility which can be used by anybody, in or out of the borough.

"The RivArt exhibition is a wonderful collection which really showcases some of this town's talented artists. I cannot think of a better collection to debut in The Blake Gallery's first exhibition."

Local art group RivArt has put on Maiden Voyage, a free exhibition featuring artists including Adam Pickering, Barbara Blun, Rosalind Munday, Glenn Fitzpatrick, Gino Generoso Napoliello and Liz Howe. It runs until April 29 and the gallery will be open weekdays from 9am to 5pm.

For details call 01474 337 896 or email thegallery@gravesham.gov.uk.

Expensive agency staff 'a cost-effective option'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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KENT County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter has defended the authority's use of expensive employment agencies to secure the services of temporary members of staff.

Last month KoS exclusively revealed how, despite planning to cut 1,500 jobs over the next four years, the council had been paying more than £2,000 per day in agency fees for just three people.

The authority had also made a one-off payment of £165,000 to fund the work of one man, Jeff Hawkins, who has been brought in to oversee an ongoing staff restructure.

But while admitting he would prefer to appoint permanent members of staff, Cllr Carter said it was not always an option.

"There are a number of senior directors who are no longer with us," he said. "We are going through a recruitment process which can take anything from three to six months, if not longer, but we've still got to run the business in that time.

"Sometimes you can fill roles by promoting people temporarily and seeing how they perform, which is always to be encouraged, but when you have significant gaps in your workforce and the experience isn't there to fill them, you have to go outside."

Consultancy

KoS revealed last month how the interim managing director of children, families and education – Malcolm Newsam – has cost taxpayers £1,250 a day in agency fees since January 4, and continues to do so.

Similarly, Eva Learner was brought in on a consultancy basis last November to support a review of social work practice, and will cost £525 a day in agency fees until at least June.

The council also paid an agency £680 a day for the services of Pam Rowe, employed as interim service improvement manager from the beginning of December, 2010, to the end of February this year.

Cllr Carter said: "The interim market is a growing market as the public sector employs fewer people at a high level.

"It's a cost-effective way of carrying out specialist assignments. The rates may be higher but you save money by not having to pay for things like sickness, holidays and pensions.

"Jeff Hawkins is carrying out a hugely complicated and time-consuming job in reshaping an organisation that employs more than 35,000 people. That's a bespoke service."

Cllr Carter also refuted suggestions that the chopping and changing of staff would have a detrimental impact on the performance of certain departments, such as the children's social services department, that has been ordered to clean up its act after being rated as "poor" by Ofsted.

"Malcolm Newsam is probably the best person in the country to transform children's services," said Cllr Carter. "He's enormously well-qualified and he's just getting on with the job.

"We were able to get him in very quickly (following the voluntary redundancy of predecessor Rosalind Turner), which is one of the benefits of employing staff through an agency. We didn't have to wait for him to leave his job."

The staff restructure at KCC – entitled Change to Keep Succeeding – has led to a slimming-down in the number of directorates along with a reduction in senior managers.

NO CHOICE: Cllr Paul Carter defended the use of agency and consultancy staff

Cllr Carter admitted the restructure had proved unpopular with several high-paid workers, who have since taken voluntary redundancy.

He said: "There may have been some individuals coming to the end of their careers who enjoyed working in a siloed (airtight) structure and did not have an appetite for change."

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Blighline in administration

REFRIGERATION giant Blighline has entered into administration, with debts of about £6 million.

The firm's management said they were left with no alternative, having been badly hit by "deteriorating trading conditions".

Deloitte administrators were appointed on March 23.

Partner Carlton Siddle said: "We will continue to trade whilst seeking a sale as a going concern.

"The administration team will work closely with management, customers and suppliers during this time to ensure operations continue as normal."

Blighline Ltd bosses tried to restructure the Canterbury-based business in 2010, taking the number of employees down from 200 to 120. However, the firm, based at Lakesview Business Park, Westbere, was ultimately unable to stave off administration.

The company built up a £25 million annual turnover through sales of refrigeration and display equipment to supermarkets and the catering industry.

Campaigners call for no vote in AV ballot

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

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ANTI-AV campaigners have launched an awareness drive to ensure Kent people understand how they may be affected by a change in the electoral system.

In addition to choosing their local councillors on May 5, voters will also be asked to have their say in only the second national referendum in UK history.

They will be asked to choose between the current first-past-the-post electoral system and the Alternative Vote (AV) method proposed by the Liberal Democrats.

Under the AV system, voters rank candidates in order of preference, with anyone receiving more than 50 per cent of the vote elected.

Otherwise, the person with the fewest votes is eliminated and their backers' second choices counted.

Kent county councillor Keith Ferrin is the Conservatives' referendum co-ordinator for the South East, and on Monday launched a No to AV awareness drive outside County Hall in Maidstone.

"There's nothing wrong with the present system, and a change would not only be expensive but also lead to unfairness," he said.

BALLOT: The public will be voting on how we run general elections

"People wouldn't decide the result of an election at the ballot box. It would be decided by politicians sitting in a room after the votes have been cast, because AV would only lead to more hung parliaments."

Conservative chairwoman Baroness Warsi said this week that a change to AV would result in more votes and legitimacy for minor parties such as the BNP, a view Cllr Ferrin agrees with.

He said: "It gives undue influence to people who vote for minor parties.

"As a Conservative, the chances are that my vote will only be counted once. But people who vote for parties like the BNP could see their votes counted five or six times.

"I don't think many people in Kent are even aware of the referendum, and those who are perhaps don't quite understand the issues. That's why we want to raise awareness and encourage people to use their vote come May 5."

The Lib Dems have long campaigned for a switch to an electoral model that is more favourable to smaller parties, and secured the AV referendum as a condition of entering into coalition with the Tories.

Other supporters of the Yes to AV campaign include Labour leader Ed Miliband, the Green Party, and the UK Independence Party.

Lib Dem county councillor Ian Chittenden said: "A change to AV will make MPs work harder because they will have to achieve 50 per cent of the vote. There won't be any more safe seats, and any complacency will go out the window.

"It will also give voters the opportunity to rank candidates in order of preference, which will provide a much fairer balance. I'm very much supportive of it."

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Haulier sunk by fuel prices

PUMPED: Hauliers may protest again

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

FUEL protesters have vowed to continue their fight for lower duty with warnings that haulage firms will be killed off by pump prices.

Leading haulage company Derek Linch Ltd, in Romney Marsh, is the latest to sink under the pressure of sky-rocketing fuel costs.

Facing European competition and fears of spiralling into debt, owner Mr Linch took the decision to go into voluntary liquidation after 33 years in business.

He said: "Since fuel started going up in January 2010, my fuel bill has risen by £20,000.

"Joseph Rice and Son, which is a haulage firm in Gloucester, closed just before me, after trading for 161 years. This was because of fuel prices.

"We will see more closing. Fuel costs were instrumental in my own decision to close."

Mr Linch, who helped organise fuel protests in 1999 and 2000 calling for Government to introduce an essential-user rebate for hauliers, said last week's Budget announcement by Chancellor George Osborne did not go far enough.

Mr Osborne scrapped the 1p increase in fuel duty and cancelled this month's planned 4p rise.

He also announced the introduction of a fair fuel stabiliser, which was a pre-election pledge by the Tories last year.

The stabiliser would see fuel duty fall when oil prices rise.

Mr Linch said: "This isn't enough. More needs to be done, especially about European lorry drivers coming over here with 2,000 litres of diesel in their tank, driving for free on our roads and taking work from British hauliers. There should be an essential fuel allowance for hauliers here. Without this, other firms will close.

"Things will go back to how they were in 1999 and 2000, and hauliers will begin to protest again."

Campaign group Fair Fuel UK, spearheaded by Lib Dem Shepway councillor Peter Carroll and led by former Top Gear presenter Quentin Willson, have been pushing for the Government to introduce a fair fuel stabiliser and cut fuel prises.

The team said the Budget was a step in the right direction, but that prices were still too high.

Recent figures from motoring organisation the AA found average UK petrol and diesel prices had risen by up to 5p per litre between February and March.

Golf club venue free for tsunami fundraisers

CHART Hills golf club in Biddenden is waiving venue fees for companies, societies or groups of individuals wishing to hold fundraising events in aid of the British Red Cross Japan Tsunami Appeal.

Until the end of April, those planning a charity golf day for 10 or more teams of four players can use the venue free of charge.

All event organisers must demonstrate that their golf day will be raising funds to help those affected by the Japanese disaster and that all cash raised will go directly to the Japan Tsunami Appeal.

Course staff will assist with organisation and running the day. They can also give advice on setting up additional fundraising streams..

Use of all venues is subject to availability, and the offer does not include food and drink costs.

Anyone planning an event in aid of the Japan Tsunami Appeal should contact the British Red Cross by emailing amburton@redcross.org.uk.

Find more golf news online at golfforkent.co.uk

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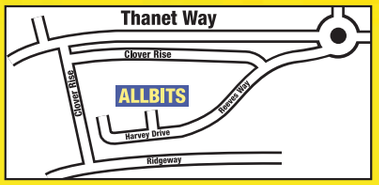

Rail firm ordered to

Southeastern facing fines if passengers are left in dark

CHAOS: Southeastern passengers were left stranded and without information this winter

By **MARIJKE COX**

marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

UNDER-fire train firm Southeastern could be fined if it fails to give passengers adequate information about services during disrupted periods.

It follows major problems during the cold snap in December where commuters were left stranded on platforms or on trains with little communication from the operator.

At the time, passengers said they accepted there would be problems during the heavy snow, but they slammed Southeastern for the shocking lack or inaccuracy and information.

In response to the complaints, the Office of Rail Regulation (ORR) has proposed to introduce a set of rules, which could see operators fined if they fail to provide sufficient information to customers.

Chairwoman of the group, Anna Walker, said a national survey carried out by independent watchdog Passenger Focus showed only two in five passengers were satisfied with information provided during delays.

"Passengers need reliable information to make and plan their journeys and, with the strides made in communication technology in the 21st century, Britain's rail industry can and must deliver," she said.

"We are all agreed that delivery of accurate and timely passenger information is crucial – particularly so during times of disruption, such as were experienced last winter when passengers were let down again."

A consultation was opened this week looking at the proposals, and if approved, the changes could be rolled out as soon as autumn.

Ms Walker added: "The consultation launched underpins the rail industry's drive to deliver improved passenger information – clarifying responsibilities and making delivery of plans already in place a requirement with the independent regulator able to take action against any poor performers who let the side down."

Two weeks ago, Southeastern was granted a two-year extension of its contract despite coming under fire for poor service during the winter months and excessive fare increases.

MP for North Thanet, Roger Gale, and Rochester and Strood representative Mark Reckless – who experienced the cold snap

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SENTENCED: Ian Deer

'Vicious attack'

A MAN who tried to murder his former lover will spend at least eight years in jail.

Ian Deer, 24, of Blenheim Drive, Hawkinge, was sentenced at Canterbury Crown Court after pleading guilty to attempted murder.

He tried to kill his 19 year-old ex-partner during a "determined and vicious" attack in Blenheim Drive on June 26, last year.

He was deemed a dangerous offender by Judge Adele Williams, and therefore she

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improve info

chaos first hand – called for the operator to be stripped of its contract altogether.

Speaking in response to ORR's proposals, Mr Reckless, who accused Southeastern of treating its franchise as a "cash cow", said: "During the snow in December, information provision was abysmal and I am delighted that in future they may be fined if they continue to let down the travelling public."

Managing director Charles Horton said the company would focus its efforts on improving punctuality and information.

A Southeastern spokesman said as an industry, rail firms know there is more to do.

"Our two priorities are to continue to improve punctuality and information during times of disruption," he said.

"We are already working hard with Network Rail and the industry to ensure that our passengers will see improvements."

The spokesman added that the problems with information last winter were to do with Network Rail's Integrated Train Planning System, which failed to upload the correct timetables, meaning online and electronic boards were incorrect.

A survey by Passenger Focus was used as part of the plans drawn up by ORR, where more than 1,000 passengers were asked to give feedback on rail performance.

Chief executive of the watchdog, Anthony Smith, said passengers reported chaotic experiences, where some were left standing on station platforms, not knowing when or if a train would come.

"Others told stories of being stranded in unfamiliar conditions in sub-zero temperatures without help and advice," he said.

"If passengers arrive at the station and the service bears no resemblance to the information sourced at home, it is doubly frustrating.

"After last year's snow disruption and the resulting failure to communicate in a timely way to all affected passengers, it is clear that something has to be done.

"Train operators are working to improve the information they put out.

"This move by the regulator will give the operators an extra incentive to get it right."

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'Check out my Hook'

FORMER popstar Vanilla Ice is set to woo audiences – as Captain Hook in his first-ever pantomime.

The global celebrity will take to the stage in this year's production of Peter Pan at the Central Theatre, in Chatham.

Ice – real name Robert Matthew Van Winkle – rose to fame with his 1991 hit Ice Ice Baby.

This and his music video – which showcased his distinctive dance moves – saw Ice win numerous music awards.

More recently, he was a contestant on Dancing on Ice 2011, and will appear in the UK tour of the programme in April.

He is also filming this year for a new film, and has taken part in numerous reality TV programmes.

PANTO DEBUT: Rap star Vanilla ice

Ice will now play the pirate villain Captain Hook when Peter Pan begins its run in Chatham on Friday, December 9. The show will perform until Monday, January 2.

Ironically, his first album was called Hooked.

Tony Hill, the general manager at The Central Theatre, Chatham, said: "Over the past few years we have had some great names at our pantomimes.

"It is fantastic news that we have booked the internationally famous star Vanilla Ice for this year's pantomime Peter Pan.

"Ice is a huge name who I am sure will be a really big draw for parents and children alike, because of his musical and film career as well as his appearance on Dancing on Ice."

lands ex-partner in jail

imposed an indeterminate sentence – meaning he can only be considered for parole after eight years.

Senior investigating officer, Det Insp Trevor Fleming said: "This was a determined and vicious attack, which during my 29 years, I have not seen the like of.

"The victim showed a great deal of courage throughout and was with me in the court to see this sentence, which reflected the very serious nature of the offence.

"This brave young woman is now rebuilding her life and I wish her well.

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Higher demand for water 'poses risk to river life'

By MATHEW BEECH
mathew.beech@kosmedia.co.uk

THE river ecosystem and wildlife is under threat from an increase in households' demands for water, according to campaigners.

The Our Rivers campaign, backed by the WWF and the RSPB, is calling on the Government to take action on the rivers in England and Wales that are threatened.

The Kentish River Stour, which starts near Ashford, runs through Canterbury and flows into the English Channel at Pegwell Bay, is one of the UK's rivers they say is seriously threatened by the increase in demand for water, due to new developments.

This is expected to worsen as demand for water grows, due to development pressure in areas such as Ashford.

Due to their clear waters and relatively stable temperature and flow regimes, chalk rivers provide a unique habitat that is important for species such as white-clawed crayfish, otters, brown trout and the UK's fastest declining mammal, the water vole.

Steve Gilbert, of the RSPB South East, said: "Preserving Kent's chalk rivers, for people and for wildlife, will depend upon a number of measures, one of which is to reduce water abstraction to restore natural flow.

"The problems caused by over-abstraction will only get worse as demand increases in developing areas.

"The Our Rivers campaign is calling on the Government to act quickly on the results of its own research and tackle the issue.

"It has already identified 148 cases where over-abstraction is damaging rivers and the wildlife they support, but there has been no action to reduce the amount of water taken."

The Wild Trout Trust is also backing the campaign, because the fresh water and migrating sea trout populations in the Stour are threatened with extinction if their habitats are not protected.

The Trust's conservation officer, Andy Thomas, said: "There are several implications if over-abstraction does occur in rivers such as the Stour.

"Firstly, the stream can be heavily impacted by low flow. This affects the migration of the trout, meaning they are more prone to being eaten by predators and they are more likely to be stressed and prone to disease.

"Secondly, there is the issue of climate change and its impact. Water temperature can increase due to the reduced surface area of the river, which will dramatically affect the river ecosystem."

South East Water, which controls water and waste management throughout most of Kent, is keen to protect water resources.

A spokesman said: "We don't extract from the Stour and we are very environmentally minded. Each day, South East Water takes more than 565 million litres of water from the environment and supplies it to about 2.1 million customers.

"This water is taken principally from underground aquifers, but also from rivers and surface reservoirs, within strict limits set by the Environment Agency."

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Picture: TOM MARSHALL (RSPB-IMAGES.COM)

THREAT: The increasingly rare water vole

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Generally a bilingual education in France is only available in private schools but the proximity of Boulogne to England and our shared history have encouraged the County Council for the Pas-de-Calais to develop an international section at the centrally situated Collège Daunou. English speaking children can now learn to speak and write French alongside French children of their own age in a truly French environment.

Collège Daunou aims to follow the path of the much acclaimed French education system

France offers state-run and private schools at all levels and the educational standards are high. The rigorous curriculum is dictated by the Ministry of Education and is virtually the same across the country and in French overseas territories.
The French educational philosophy emphasizes : the authority of the Teacher; individual competition including an absolute grading system; stress is on analytical thought and students are frequently expected to learn by heart. Academic expectations are high. Sports are encouraged in and out of school, the variety of after school sports is particularly wide.

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It's city living, late Roman style

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

ANCIENT Roman cities from around the Mediterranean will be explored as part of a fascinating project being led by the University of Kent.

Thanks to more than £180,000 funding from the Leverhulme Trust, a team of archaeologists will study artwork and excavated artefacts belonging to the 'late antique' period (AD 300-650) from sites in Turkey, Tunisia and Italy.

Led by Dr Luke Lavan, from the university's School of European Culture and Languages, the scholars aim to achieve a clearer understanding of what urban life was like for people living in the latter years of the Roman Empire right through to the Middle Ages.

"Few films or TV programmes seek to visualise everyday life in late antiquity," said Dr Lavan.

"Most people simply cannot imagine the Mediterranean cities of this period, such as Carthage as known to Augustine, Jerusalem as known to Mohammed, or Constantinople (now Istanbul) as known to Justinian.

"This was a critical period in the development of European civilisation, yet it is remarkable how little is known about the daily rhythms of city life.

"When most people close their eyes they can probably imagine urban life from earlier periods, in places like Rome or Pompeii, but that is not the case for late antiquity."

Picture: uploadalt

ARTEFACT: A sixth century coin depicting Emperor Justinian I, from the late antique period

Kent is blessed with a rich archaeological heritage from the late antique era, ranging from the 4th century Lullingstone Roman Villa in the Darent Valley to the early medieval settlement archaeology discovered at Canterbury, Lyminge and other sites across the county.

In addition to exploring the architecture of the period, the three-year project in the Mediterranean – entitled Visualising the Late Antique City – also aims to unearth a more vivid image of the lawyers, clergy, urchins, prostitutes and others who lived during the time.

The research will be published as both an academic document and an illustrated catalogue, and will be made accessible to filmmakers, authors, museums and the general public so they can gain a better understanding of the period in question.

Dr Lavan said that excavations of late antique sites reveal well-preserved evidence due to the period forming the final layer at most locations before they were abandoned.

He added: "Buildings often survive intact to their roof-line, with internal fittings such as ovens, cupboards and shop counters.

"Statue bases can survive in situ, while pavement markings, graffiti and official notices reveal the locations of market stalls or political meetings."

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Kent group joins protest against cuts

PROTESTORS from across Kent were among a crowd of up to 500,000 who marched through London to demonstrate their anger at Government spending cuts, ***writes Steve Knight.***

The mass rally was organised by the Trades Union Congress (TUC) and promoted at a county level by a collaboration of 10 of the UK's biggest trade unions known collectively as Kent – Save Our Services.

Chairwoman Zoe Van Dyke, of the public service union Unison, told KoS she was delighted with the turnout at last Saturday's march, despite the actions of a minority of protestors who vandalised businesses.

She said: "It was very uplifting and good to see that people felt the issue was important enough to make the effort.

"The march was the first step in the process of making it clear to the Government that the majority of people disagree with the cuts."

The TUC said 250,000-500,000 people attended the march from Embankment to Hyde Park, which passed off without incident.

But trouble erupted after a separate group, wearing scarves to mask their faces, attacked stores at Oxford Street before heading to Piccadilly and Trafalgar Square.

"I don't think the violence was justified and it didn't do our cause a great deal of good," said Ms Van Dyke.

PEACEFUL: Members of Medway Green Party joined the London demonstration

"You have to wonder if the people involved were actually interested in what we were marching for, but I don't think their actions detracted from it, because on the whole the demonstration was very peaceful.

"We should be concentrating on the volume of people who attended and what it says about public feeling. We didn't vote for this decimation of public services."

The disturbances at the march formed the basis of a debate in the House of Commons on Monday, when Canterbury Tory MP Julian Brazier accused those who took part in even the peaceful aspects of the demonstration of "foolishness".

He also criticised Labour leader Ed Miliband for his speech to the protestors, in he claimed the march came "in the tradition" of the suffragettes, the US civil rights movement and the anti-apartheid campaign.

Mr Brazier said: "In rightly condemning the extreme behaviour of a few hundred people we are in danger of losing sight of the essential foolishness of the perfectly legitimate, but misguided, demonstration."

Meanwhile, North Thanet MP Roger Gale has lodged a formal complaint with the BBC over its coverage of the march.

The senior Tory backbencher claims the broadcaster has become "partial to an unacceptable degree" after first referring to the Coalition as "the Tory Government" before airing an interview with Treasury minister Justine Greening, whose comments were "distracted" by live images of the protests.

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A MAN is facing criminal charges after allegedly faking his own death.

Anthony Brendan McErlean, 66, of Swarling Hill Road, Petham, Canterbury, has been charged with fraud.

It is claimed that between December 5, 2009, and May 31, 2010, he made a false claim to an insurance company to claim death benefit of £520,000 by faking his own death in Honduras.

He appeared at Canterbury Magistrates Court on Wednesday and has been remanded in custody until April 6 when he will again appear at Canterbury Magistrates Court.

FIREFIGHTERS tackled a blaze aboard a ship ironically named the Ocean Dragon.

Six fire engines were sent to Ramsgate Harbour at about 11.15pm on Tuesday, following reports of a fire that broke out in the vessel's engine room.

About 30 crew members from the Ramsgate, Thanet and Margate crews helped tackled the blaze, while a height vehicle, command support unit and water unit were also at the scene.

Ramsgate watch manager David Halls said: "The incident was quite challenging as crews had to work in a confined space."

Firefighters tackled the blaze using a hose reel and main jet.

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Three great ways to win

It's going to be a busy spring at Leeds Castle, and to celebrate we've teamed up with the historic landmark to offer these fantastic competitions

Picture: SCOTT WRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

DURING the long weekend of April 22-25, Easter will be in bloom at the castle and children will be able take part in a gardening trail and collect letters from around the castle grounds to form a winning word.

The trail will lead to the bunny burrow near the spiralling yew maze where children completing the trail will collect a chocolate Easter egg prize.

Children's trail cards will also allow entrance into a craft marquee next to the maze where scarecrow and Easter craft activities will be on offer.

New for Easter 2011, Leeds Castle will also be giving children with a valid trail card free pumpkin seeds, pots and earth to grow them.

The Leeds Castle gardeners will be on hand to give tips and advice on how to grow enormous pumpkins as part of this year's competition, Beat the Leeds Castle Gardeners.

We have three family (two adults and three children) Spring into Easter Key to the Castle tickets to give away. To be in with a chance of winning just answer this simple question:

What seed will children with a valid trail card be given?

a) Pumpkin, b) Tomato, c) Cabbage

Text EASTER (space) answer, your name and address and send to 64343.

COME and watch one of the biggest events in history taking place on a big screen at Leeds Castle's Royal Wedding Celebration.

To commemorate the marriage of Prince William to Catherine Middleton on Friday, April 29, the event will be broadcast live on a big open air screen at Leeds Castle, perfect to watch history being made with your friends, family and those around you. Gates open early at 9.30am.

Leeds Castle is Kent's beautiful royal palace, having been home to six medieval queens during its 900 year history and a preferred residence of Henry VIII.

We have three family (two adults and three children) Royal Wedding Celebration Key to the Castle tickets to give away for the royal wedding screening. To be in with a chance of winning tell us:

How many medieval queens has Leeds Castle been home to?

A) 6, B) 8, C) 4

To enter text WEDDING (space) your answer, your name and your address and send to 64343.

AFTER the excitement of the royal wedding, Leeds Castle will be carrying the celebrations on into the evening with an open-air film screening of the musical comedy Mamma Mia! Following the film screening, there will be a magnificent fireworks display to music to conclude this memorable day.

We have three family (two adults and three children) Royal Wedding Fireworks and Open Air Cinema Evening Key to the Castle tickets to give away for just the film screening and fireworks.

To be in with a chance of winning just tell us:

What film will Leeds Castle be screening in the evening of the Royal Wedding Day?

a) Mamma Mia! b) Waterloo, c) Money Money Money

Text FIREWORKS (space) answer, your name and address and send to 64343.

If you're not one of the lucky winners, why not buy a Key to the Castle pass, which means you only have to pay once and your Key will get you admission to the castle and its grounds for a whole year, with the exception of evening ticketed events.

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Charities lose out to clothing thieves

By **MARIJKE COX**

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BOGUS charity collectors operating in Kent have caused a staggering drop in the number of donations from members of the public.

In just one month, children's charities Make a Wish and NSPCC have seen Clothes Aid donations drop significantly, with the biggest decreases seen in Medway, by 20 per cent, and Canterbury, by 42 per cent.

Karen England, head of fundraising at Make a Wish, which grants wishes to children suffering life-threatening illnesses, blames the decrease on the rising number of bogus collections, fake charity bags and clothing collection thefts.

"The money raised from clothing collections run for us by Clothes Aid is invaluable and donated clothes have generated over £620,000 nationally so far," she said.

"This year Clothes Aid aims to raise £150,000 for Make-A-Wish to help us grant more magical wishes to just some of the 20,000 children and young people living in the UK with a life-threatening illness.

"We absolutely depend on the public to donate their unwanted clothes.

"That's why we're calling on our supporters to keep on giving with care"

Conmen

Chatham and Aylesford Tory MP Tracey Crouch launched a campaign last year to stop bogus charity collectors operating in Kent and Medway.

It followed a BBC investigation which revealed Lithuanian conmen claiming to work for Breakthrough Breast Cancer had been delivering clothes sacks in north Kent.

The donated articles were then being sold on abroad.

According to Miss Crouch, an estimated 36,000 tonnes of clothes are stolen every year, at a cost to charities of up to £14 million in donations.

However, she said enforcement action against bogus charity collectors is poor and that only one in every 10,000 acts of illegal collection is actually punished.

"Unless the issue is taken seriously right from the top, the scam will continue," she said.

Tory charities minister Nick Hurd vowed to address the problem by writing to both the Association of Chief Police Officers and the Ministry of Justice to review guidance for officers and levels of punishment.

Make a Wish fundraising head Ms England issued advice to householders who wished to continue donating clothes to charity.

"Look out for the Clothes Aid collection bag on your doorstep between now and April 18 and check your clothing is picked up by a uniformed collector in a Clothes Aid van.

"Look for a Give with Confidence tick of approval from the Fundraising Standards Board on leaflets and bags."

If you suspect a bogus collector or a theft you can call the collection protection helpline on 020 7288 8535.

BEWARE: Make sure charity collectors are genuine

Mental health help all day

KENT and Medway will soon be among a handful of places in England to offer people free 24-hour confidential, emotional support.

From April 1, support from the Mental Health Matters will be available round the clock in Kent and Medway on 0800 107 0160.

Previously the helpline was open in the evenings and at weekends, but was closed in the daytime during the week.

"Last year, the Mental Health Matters helpline in Kent and Medway received more than 10,000 calls," said Lauretta Kavanagh, director of mental health commissioning for the Kent and Medway primary care trusts.

"People called about relationship problems, loneliness, stress, and bereavement."

People can also live chat with a counsellor at timeonline@mentalhealthmatters.co.uk.

Not too late for broadband bids

THERE is still time for Kent's rural communities to bid for grants to speed up broadband, says Cllr Kevin Lynes, of Kent County Council.

He said: "We recently launched the £1.5 million Superfast Broadband Pilot Fund to help rural communities benefit from high-speed broadband. The closing date for this is April 14.

"For those who are not successful first time round, we will have further KCC funds available in the summer and autumn to enable a total of 15 areas to benefit."

Communities in Kent can also bid for the separate KCC-administered community broadband grant.

Community groups can apply for grants on the www.kent.gov.uk/broadband website or an application form can be obtained from the KCC contact centre on 08458 247247.

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Cuts too deep and too rapid, warns bishop

Picture: MARK RAMSAY

ANGER: Feelings were running high on Saturday at the protest in London over Government spending cuts that will affect public sector services

People 'need time to adjust to being self-supporting'

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

MASSIVE Government spending cuts will hamper the public's ability to regain responsibility from the state, warns the Bishop of Rochester.

While acknowledging the need to reduce the deficit, the Right Rev James Langstaff – who also represents Bexley, Bromley, Gravesham, Dartford and most of west Kent – says the speed and depth of the cuts may not give people time to adjust.

The bishop's comments come as more than 250,000 people took part in an anti-cuts demonstration in London, resulting in 201 arrests as a minority of protestors broke windows and covered businesses in paint.

"I think it's fairly clear that over the last generation we have – perhaps without noticing it – allowed the state to play a bigger and bigger part in people's lives, and that's partly our own fault," he said.

"When something goes wrong our response is 'what's the Government going to do about it?', and that has a price tag to it.

"So there needs to be more than just spending cuts; there needs to be a change in people's mentality so we learn again to take more responsibility for ourselves. But there's a slight danger that the learning process might be undermined by the depth and rapidity of the cuts."

Councils currently have little option but to make huge savings over the next financial year due to the front-loading of cuts imposed by the Coalition.

Kent County Council, for example, must save £95 million this year followed by a lower figure of £65m in 2012-13.

Last month the Archbishop of Canterbury, Dr Rowan Williams, told KoS Government spending cuts were putting vulnerable people at risk.

CHANGE NEEDED: The Bishop of Rochester, the Rt Rev James Langstaff, urges caution

He added that he wished councils had the option to show more forward planning when it came to service reductions, and that he was worried some people would continue to be worse off, even after the economy has recovered.

The Rt Rev Langstaff, who is three months into his new job, agreed with Dr Williams that homelessness could also rise as a result of the spending cuts.

He said: "There's an argument for that. Even in wealthier parts of Kent there will be partners on good jobs who may be made redundant at the same time, and then even they will start to wonder where the next meal is going to come from.

"Of course the cuts will also cause a great deal of anxiety in areas that are heavily dependent on employment in the public sector or on state support for different things, and there's a big question mark over how we respond to that.

"But the Church will play its part in meeting human need, as it has done for more than 2,000 years – long before anyone invented the Big Society."

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Pray for those in action in Libya

THE Bishop of Rochester has voiced his support for the ongoing military action against Colonel Gaddafi's Libyan regime.

While admitting Christians have difficulty supporting any kind of conflict, the Right Reverend James Langstaff indicated that coalition forces probably had to intervene for the greater good.

However, he warned against British forces getting caught up in yet another lengthy war, following the huge loss of life in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Rt Rev Langstaff said: "There is a question as to what right we have to intervene when another person is perceived to be oppressive and violent towards his own people. It was the same with Hitler during World War Two.

"Christians have different views about using force, but I think in the case of Libya we probably had to, on balance.

"These things are never entirely clear. They're not clearly right or clearly wrong, and you often have to weigh up what to do.

"We don't know what carnage might have taken place if Col Gaddafi's forces had reached Benghazi. That's why we have to pray for the people whose job it is to make these extremely difficult judgements."

The Rt Rev Langstaff added that it was important the coalition forces do not outstay their welcome in Libya, and risk being perceived as "western colonialists".

He said: "My anxiety is that once you get involved in this type of thing, it can be very difficult to get out of.

"I really hope that those people who make these decisions work out how not to get embroiled."

SUPPORT: Allied air strikes were necessary in Libya, to prevent carnage, says the Bishop

HUMAN ERROR: The Japanese quake is a result of building in the wrong place, says the Bishop

Natural disasters 'a side-effect of creation'

CHRISTIANS should not lose faith in God over tragedies such as the devastating earthquake and tsunami in Japan, says the Bishop of Rochester.

The 9.0-magnitude quake and the powerful tidal wave it triggered off the north-east coast on March 11 is now known to have killed more than 10,900 people, with more than 17,000 still missing.

But while admitting it was understandable for people to question the existence of God following such catastrophic events, the Right Reverend James Langstaff said mankind had to take responsibility for what had happened.

"Tragedies like the earthquake shake people's confidence," he added. "They ask how they can believe in a loving God when such terrible things are allowed to happen, when the reality is that they arise out of the fabric of the world we live in.

"Creation has these side consequences. While one is very sympathetic about the situation in Japan, one has to consider where we choose to place our cities, because we can't expect God to do everything.

"We have it in our power to sort these problems out ourselves. Tokyo is very close to a major fault line, so what are we doing to exercise our God-given responsibilities to avoid these kinds of disasters?

"Earthquakes are unfortunately going to happen. That's how the world was made."

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FOLKESTONE - CALAIS

Mentally ill die 25 years early

Physical health 'forgotten', admits nursing boss

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

LIFE expectancy among severely mentally ill patients in Kent is being dramatically reduced by up to 25 years due to poor physical health, according to a new study.

A head of nursing at a major health trust has admitted they had simply "forgotten" about physical well-being.

Researchers at the University of East Anglia chose the Kent and Medway National Health Service (NHS) and Social Care Partnership Trust, to carry out the study because it is a typical secondary mental health service provider to a population of 1.6 million in the South East of England.

The team said physical ill-health is already commonplace among severely mentally ill people across Britain.

Snapshot

So over two years, they chose to closely examine the cases of almost 800 Kent patients with severe mental illness such as schizophrenia and bipolar disorder in order to gain a snapshot of just how bad the situation really is, and, more importantly, what could be done about it.

In a frightening statistic, they discovered two-thirds were overweight or obese, and a disproportionate number suffered from diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure and raised cholesterol.

The research team found inactivity, poor diet, smoking and excessive alcohol consumption were the norm, plus obesity was prevalent at 66 per cent.

It was also discovered 34 per cent of patients had high blood pressure; 52 per cent had abnormally high cholesterol levels and a surprisingly high proportion were being prescribed atypical antipsychotic drugs associated with weight gain.

RESEARCH: Professor Richard Gray, right, believes more attention ought to be paid to the physical health of the mentally ill, many of whom are overweight and heavy smokers

This all contributed to a life expectancy slashed by an astonishing 25 years, mainly from cardiovascular disease.

The team said that while clinicians are well practised at assessing the risk of self-harm, they simply fail to assess the risk of cardiovascular disease.

Lead author Prof Richard Gray, of UEA's School of Nursing and Midwifery, said: "Mental health nurses do a tough job and are compassionate and highly committed.

"But they do not tend to be skilled at managing the physical health of their patients and they often don't lead healthy lifestyles themselves.

"Since mental health workers tend to have sustained one-to-one relationships with their patients, those who smoke, have a poor diet and fail to take exercise are having a negative influence on the lives of vulnerable people.

"We need to train our mental health workers to lead by example and intervene if their patients' physical health is deteriorating."

Prof Gray has found that mental health workers tend to smoke more than the general population and nurses, making them less than effective role models.

Prof Gray added: "Health professionals have a duty to promote health in their patients.

"Government guidelines must reflect the shared responsibility of all health care professionals to promote health in one of the most marginalised groups in our society."

An initiative that could possibly dramatically improve the figures, a Wellbeing Support Programme was launched and more than 200 mental health nurses were trained in its use.

Monitoring

The results were encouraging, with 212 mental health practitioners trained and 782 patients enrolled, and in many cases their BMI was "significantly altered".

The report said: "The need to intervene to enhance the physical health of people with severe mental illness is beyond doubt.

"Maintaining patient engagement in a physical health improvement programme is challenging. Regular comprehensive physical health monitoring is necessary to establish the benefit of intervention and increase life expectancy and well-being in this population."

Donna Eldridge, head of nursing at the Kent and Medway National Health Service (NHS) and Social Care Partnership Trust, who took part in the study, admitted there had been problems, but they are working to improve.

She said: "The reason is the drugs we used to give them, and the fact that for some reason or another, therapy and everything else in mental health came to the forefront and we forgot about physical health."

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MEDWAY: South dock pumping station

Picture: CLEM RUTTER

Protecting the relics of our industrial past

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk

ENGLISH Heritage is undertaking a survey of historic industrial sites in Kent to see which are at risk of crumbling into a state of disrepair.

The former naval dockyards of Chatham and Sheerness are expected to be closely examined as part of the project, as are Oare Gunpowder Works near Faversham and various hop farms throughout the county.

English Heritage will publish its findings in October as part of its annual Heritage at Risk register, which provides an insight into the condition of the UK's listed buildings, scheduled monuments, protected wrecks and more.

South East planning director Dr Andy Brown said: "It's sometimes said that the South East does not have much of an industrial heritage.

"While it is true we don't have the huge textile mills, warehouses and potteries that characterise parts of the north, we do have innumerable remains in town and country of the Industrial Revolution – that great era spanning from 1750 to World War One when Britain led the world."

Either side of publication of the Heritage at Risk register, English Heritage will be engaging with politicians, academics, owners, developers and more to discuss how best to deal with the problem of decaying buildings.

Dr Brown said the current economic climate was not helping.

He added: "Owners are finding it hard to look after the needs of their buildings as well as their businesses. Developers are cautious about taking on vacant industrial buildings, and public bodies and regeneration agencies are less able to support schemes for re-use.

Picture: CLEM RUTTER

INSPECTION: The No. 7 covered slip at Chatham Historic Dockyard

"There are no easy answers, but we're determined to see what can be done to help. Our industrial past is too important to ignore."

English Heritage is now inviting members of the public to post photographs and comments about their favourite industrial buildings at www.english-heritage.org.uk, which hosts a Flickr group run in association with the Council for British Archaeology, and the Association for Industrial Archaeology.

Last year's Heritage at Risk register revealed that 101 castles, monuments and other listed buildings in Kent face the very real possibility of falling apart due to a lack of investment.

But it was not all bad news for the county, as two previously at-risk structures – the Montreal Park Obelisk in Sevenoaks and the barn at Westenhanger Castle near Hythe – were removed from the register.

Also included was a sample survey of the 2,254 places of worship in the South East, which concluded that about 86 per cent were in either good or fair condition.

GROWTH INDUSTRY: Kent's historic hop farms will be surveyed by English Heritage

Church Post Office fit for Jane Austen

AN ISOLATED community with links to author Jane Austen is getting a post office in a church, ***writes Ian Read***.

Goodnestone, near Canterbury has been without a post office and general store for three months.

The nearest shops are in Wingham or Aylesham and there is only a limited bus service, so the Church of England decided to step in to help.

Surveys have shown villages decay when its centre loses a major asset like the village store.

But, starting this week, a counter has been set up in Holy Cross Church on Monday and Wednesday mornings.

Jane Austen is believed to have worshipped there when her brother lived at nearby Goodnestone Park, where she was a frequent visitor. However, she would barely recognise the 14th century church now as Victorian architects 'improved' it.

Jane Austen

The Bishop of Dover, the Rt Rev Trevor Willmott blessed the new venture which was officially opened by the High Sheriff of Kent, Peregrine Massey, watched by children from the primary school next door.

The church's vicar, Rev Nigel Hale realised there was a gap in the community which the church could help to fill.

He said: "Local people were bereft when the post office and the village shop closed just before Christmas.

"The church community quickly identified Holy Cross Church could provide a venue for the post office and we have worked to make this happen.

"By opening up Holy Cross for alternative uses we are placing the church at the centre of the community and providing a benefit to the people."

Mr Hale says it is hoped to organise a mini farmers' market and coffee mornings at the same time.

Jane Austen expert Maggie Lane believes the author would have heartily approved of the project.

Ms Lane, who has written three books on the author, said: "Jane Austen was a great letter writer who cherished keeping in touch with her family.

"When she stayed with her brother at Goodnestone Park Jane wroted many letters and I think if she were alive she would have loved using a post office situated so conveniently in the village."

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Our veterans need you

VOLUNTEER: No experience is necessary to sign up become a heritage tree surveyor

By **CHRIS MURPHY**

editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

A GROUP looking after the county's heritage trees is calling for volunteers to check on our ancient woodlands and ensure they are in good health.

The British Trust for Conservation Volunteers was last year awarded a £652,400 Heritage Lottery Fund grant. Now it is using the cash to run a five-year scheme to encourage the involvement of hundreds of people of all ages to look after Kent's rich stock of heritage trees.

These are defined by the Forestry Commission as "old trees, wide trees, rare trees and trees with historical and cultural significance".

The Ashford branch of the organisation, which was launched in 1959, wants volunteers to become tree surveyors, take part in educational sessions, plant new trees, or learn more on free courses.

A spokesman said: "Just a few hours of your time could help to conserve these magnificent trees.

"BTCV is looking for 330 volunteers to register and train to become heritage tree surveyors – no experience is necessary as BTCV will provide all registered volunteers with free training and equipment."

It is holding three open days: on May 14 in Ashford, June 14 at Canterbury, and July 10 in Tonbridge, to give people the chance to hear more.

Project officer Virginia Hodge said: "We will be running these events to get people involved with tree recording and raising the profile of heritage trees.

"The event will include guided walks and talks, visits to heritage tree parks, community awareness open days, biodiversity and heritage tree ecology courses and heritage tree walks."

She said the sessions will provide an introduction to practical conservation and the natural world with fun activities including natural art and music, tree decorating and mini-beast hunts.

She added: "Heritage trees are an amazing and

integral part of our natural heritage. They are the old trees in woodland, parkland and the gnarled oaks in the hedgerows.

"Kent has 10 per cent of England's irreplaceable ancient woodland. We want to identify and record the oldest examples and save and protect them for future generations."

Kate MacKenzie, BTCV operations director, added: "South East England has the highest proportion of heritage trees in Western Europe, offering biodiversity, providing habitats and food for a range of creatures and representing hundreds of years of Kentish culture, yet we know little about them.

"Now we will be able to properly identify, protect and manage these important natural assets."

• Call Virginia Hodge on 01233 666519 or email v.hodge@btcv.org.uk for more information.

BEAUTIES: From left: crowned crane, military macaws, parrots and swans are among the many birds to be seen at the castle

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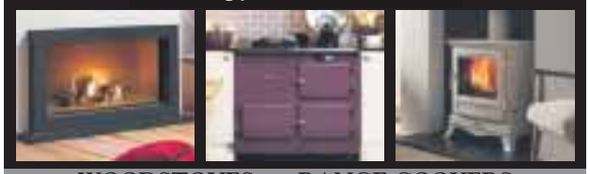

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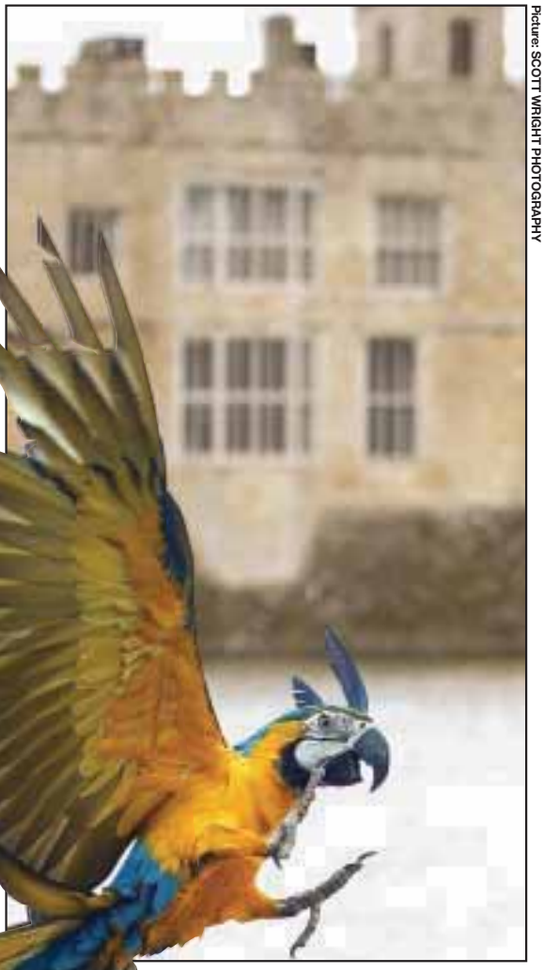

Picture: SCOTT WRIGHT PHOTOGRAPHY

Make a date with nature at the castle

THE RSPB needs help from people across the county for a wildlife project at Leeds Castle.

From next Saturday, April 9, until Monday, May 2, and again from August 13-September 4, the group is running its Date With Nature event at the castle near Maidstone.

It wants to encourage visitors to find out more about the wide range of birds and other wildlife that can be seen in the grounds and to help them get a close up view.

Birds likely to be seen include three types of swans, the black, whooper and mute, plus geese, ducks, herons, buzzards, sparrowhawks, kingfishers and even water voles.

James McComiskey, of the RSPB South East said: "If you're enthusiastic about wildlife and like talking to people, you're bound to enjoy this project.

"You'll be given training, so you don't need to have expert knowledge on wildlife to volunteer with us."

The charity needs people of all ages and backgrounds and the volunteers will distribute information to visitors and assist people with viewing the wildlife from the castle grounds using an array of optical equipment including binoculars and spotting-scopes.

Anyone interested in volunteering can contact James McComiskey on 07889615725 or email james.mccomiskey@rspb.org.uk as soon as possible to arrange training and volunteer schedules.

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MP's disgust at taunts on killer thug's facebook profile

By **IAN READ**
editorial@kosmedia.co.uk

JULIAN Brazier MP says he is "extremely disappointed" a killer will not be punished after updates on online social networking site Facebook appeared to be taunting his victim's family.

Curtis Delima, 22, was jailed for life last year for his part in the murder of Whitstable father-of-three Mark Witherall.

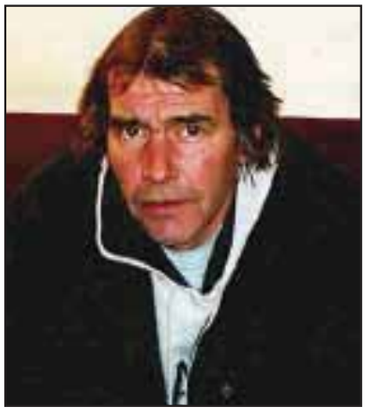
The 47-year-old was attacked by thugs at his home in King Edward Street.

Delima smashed him in the face with a spirit-level before the rest of the gang punched and kicked him. Mr Witherall never regained consciousness.

He was trying to stop Delima and his gang stealing tools and computer equipment from his house, the court heard. They fell on him like a "pack of hyenas", the judge said.

But last month Delima's Facebook page reportedly said the killing had been "fun" – a claim which left Mr Witherall's widow Michelle "dumbfounded".

However, efforts to take action against Delima have ground to a halt after the Prison Service said it was unable to confirm the killer had posted the update.



VICTIM: Mark Witherall was beaten up

DISAPPOINTED: Tory MP Julian Brazier

KILLER: Curtis Delima was jailed for life

Officers say a third party is using Delima's page to cause trouble but Mr Brazier, the Conservative MP for Canterbury and Whitstable, believes the murderer is behind the abuse.

Prisons Minister Crispin Blunt wrote in a letter to the MP: "I would like to assure you there is no evidence suggesting Mr Delima has accessed his Facebook profile himself.

"There are indications a third party was responsible for the updates."

It has prompted Mr Brazier to call for tougher regulations for the likes of Facebook and internet providers to be able to pinpoint where updates to the site are made from to prevent any repeat.

Mr Brazier said: "I'm extremely disappointed that the Prison Service cannot pin down who was responsible for posting such a disgusting message.

"It seems Curtis Delima was in touch with the offending party. To cause further misery to the family of Mr Witherall, even if it is through a third party, shows no remorse.

"This is one example why we need tighter legal arrangements for internet service providers so that those abusing the system can be traced."

The MP said he would be pressing for new restrictions to be put in place.

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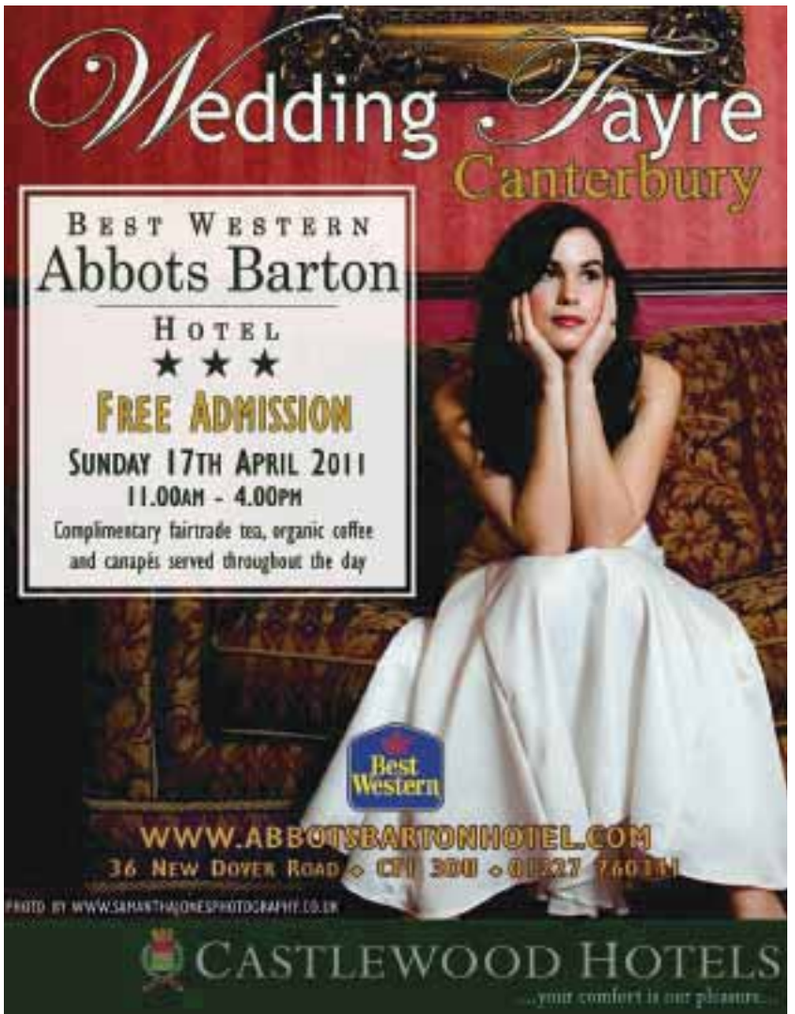

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Deva mono sink tap in chrome
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Greens and driving association approach roads debate from opposite directions

REVIEW: The speed limit is under scrutiny and could be raised to 80mph on most UK motorways, but campaigners want reductions

M-way speed limit review fuels safety and pollution fears

By **MARIJKE COX**
marijke.cox@kosmedia.co.uk

GREEN campaigners have vowed to push for reduced motorway speed limits despite transport chiefs in Parliament considering a possible rise by the summer.

MPs could be asked to vote as soon as July on plans to raise the limit from 70 to 80mph as part of a new road safety strategy, due to be considered in May.

Transport minister Mike Penning said they will look at the economic benefits of shorter journey times and the road safety implications.

Supporters of the proposed increase said when the 70mph limit was introduced in 1964 cars were not capable of reaching higher speeds. They argue that with advances in technology, vehicles are now designed to travel safely at faster speeds.

But Kent Green Party said there was ample evidence that safety decreased and emissions increased with higher speeds.

Member Steve Dawe said: "If we lower motorway speeds and speeds in residential areas, we can cut both emissions and accidents. Kent Green Party supports a review of motorway speeds with a view to reducing limits and has long campaigned for 20mph limits for all residential roads in urban areas."

An experimental 70mph limit was put in place almost 50 years ago after a spate of unofficial road races and accidents on what was then unrestricted road.

The new limit could be put in place on motorways across the country, although plans are to keep a 70mph limit on the M25.

Statistics show British motorways are among the safest roads in Europe. In 2009 there were 2,222 road deaths, with 132 of those on motorways.

Kent Green Party has also repeated calls for 20mph limits in residential areas, prompted by a rise in the number of child casualties on the roads.

Chairman Stuart Jeffrey said: "This problem has gone on far too long. It's time for action. Kent needs an immediate change to 20mph limits in all residential areas. As we know, residents overwhelmingly support this, the last government supported this and public health experts support this.

"There is no excuse not to implement it."

Campaign group the Association of British Drivers (ABD) has been pushing for an increase in the motorway speed limit for years.

Kent spokesman Ian Taylor said an increase would be a victory for drivers.

"Motorways are the fastest and yet safest roads. Most people drive on motorways and a lot of them drive at 80mph anyway," he said.

"Driving at this speed is what most modern cars are built for."

A spokesman for the Highways Agency, which forms part of the Department for Transport, said the plans formed part of a new road safety strategy which will be considered next month.

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Beating the burglars

POLICE in Maidstone have recovered stolen property worth almost £80,000 in the first few days of a campaign targeting burglars.

Heavy machinery which had been stolen from the Medway City Estate on March 20 was recovered while a search warrant was carried out at a property in Otham. Det Sgt Martin Foord said no arrests had been made but investigations were continuing.

"Recovering such a large amount of high-value machinery just days after it had been stolen was a really positive start to the campaign," he said.

Stay Safe This Spring is Kent Police's seasonal drive to reduce crime associated with lighter evenings and mild weather. It runs until April 8 and aims to raise awareness of how opportunist crimes can be prevented.

Officers are targeting those suspected of burglary, theft and handling stolen goods, and the outlets used for passing on stolen property.

Chief Insp Lee Russell said: "Opportunist thieves will look for homes where occupants have gone out and left windows open. Taking a few simple steps now can keep you and your property safe this spring."

Home security advice includes closing and locking front doors and windows if you are in the back garden; don't leave keys, handbags or valuables visible through a window; and consider extra security measures such as spy holes, door chains, door locks and alarms.

• ***Click on the website www.kent.police.uk/spring for more advice.***

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LETTERS

KOS Media welcomes your comments and letters for publication. Please send correspondence to: Letters to the Editor, KOS Media, Apple Barn, Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS. Alternatively fax them to: 01303 817001, or email them to editorial@kosmedia.co.uk. Please include your name and address, although these will be withheld in exceptional circumstances. Please also include a daytime telephone number for verification (this will not be published). We reserve the right to edit letters.

LETTER OF THE WEEK

You can bank on more anger

As one of the huge number of people who attended the TUC's March for the Alternative, which included many from across Kent, I can say that despite the small amount of so-called violence against certain establishments, the majority peacefully paraded their total opposition to the Con-Dem Coalition Government's plans.

However, if some people are worried about the Ritz being crackered, or a few bejewelled Hyacinth Bucket types being upset by the moralising chanting of UK Uncut's flashmob-style invasion of Fortnum & Mason and the breaking of banks' windows, maybe they should actually be asking themselves why people felt so angry in the first place.

The reasons for the anger are the same as why up to half a million people were peacefully parading through the streets of London in the first place. They were all against the unnecessary cuts, job losses and complete privatisation of the public sector being carried out by the Government.

I watched people from across the UK pass with banners from not just the unions and political parties, but from many youth, health, care and elderly centres, council departments, NHS nurses and doctors, social services, disability groups, and even off-duty police officers, among many others.

As TUC chief Brendan Barber said before Saturday, it's not just the unions but a very broad coalition of ordinary people and groups.

Here was also the anger Bank of England Governor Mervyn King mentioned recently – wondering why there seemed so little of it. Even he has intimated that cuts to the state sector – affecting the most vulnerable – because of the mistakes of the financial sector, are largely unjustified.

All those in London last Saturday were clear that there is most definitely an alternative – that the Green New Deal, Robin Hood Tax, closing tax loopholes and maintaining the NHS and welfare state is a far better way to a decent society than the money-mad Con-Dems can ever imagine. Well done to everyone who was there and all those who watched in support from home.

Ray Duff, Folkestone

OPINION: A NUCLEAR NIPPON AGAIN

TIM GARBUTT asks if the crisis in Japan offers lessons closer to home and whether the nuclear industry's toxic tide has finally reached its high point

IT'S ALMOST impossible to describe the events in Japan. A house on fire and floating downriver. A cargo ship flung into the centre of town. And whole towns simply washed away.

And if the effects of the tsunami and earthquake – the worst in Japan's history – are receding, then the explosions at the Fukushima nuclear power complex pose more problems. These apocalyptic events also contain the seeds of danger in Kent. The Boxing Day tsunami in 2004 left more than 250,000 dead around the Indian Ocean; the broken flood defences in New Orleans from 2005's Hurricane Katrina; and the destruction of Port-au-Prince in Haiti last year were equally appalling and are now part of our Age of Climate Change.

Earthquakes, tsunamis and floods are nothing new, but warmer summers and colder winters mean more frequent and violent weather events. In Kent, we now have to wonder about the safety of nuclear reactors at Dungeness and even Sizewell – built on the shoreline and still without a no-fly zone, as required at Fukushima.

Or even the dangers of the USS Richard Montgomery, sunk off Sheerness in 1944 with 3,000 tonnes of explosives on board. An explosion could unleash a five-metre-high tsunami on Kent.

And with France one of the few major nuclear powers outside the United States and Japan, the dangers of the 2009 failures at Gravelines, just over the Channel, and dumping nuclear waste off Brittany seems ludicrous in the 21st century.

Especially as Fukushima now requires food and drink to be screened for radiation before export from Japan – a concern for Kent's farmers facing problems here. Nuclear power is still expanding in China with five reactors due to be built each year, but as an energy source it must now have reached its high tide. All the more poignant given the 25th anniversary of Chernobyl this month and the horror of a third nuclear disaster on Japan.

Nuclear's toxic dangers are too high and reliance on fossil fuels such as uranium an anachronism, compared with the relatively low production cost and perpetual, clean and free energy from renewables such as solar, wave and wind. Kent's windfarms in the London Array or Vattenfall sites will certainly be out-produced by solar and projects such as Desertec in the years ahead, where all the world's electricity can be generated by just six hours of sunshine in Saharan solar farms.

If Freedom of Information and Environmental Information Regulations provide the right to information on public organisations, utilities and the environment, then surely public safety issues for toxins, flood defences, air and water pollution, asbestos, etc, must routinely be published and scrutinised.

Still in 2011, six years after the FoI Act became law (and EIR some 20 years earlier across the EU) Kent's politicians and civil servants are dragging their heels on basic issues such as costs and diaries.

Fukushima and the two earthquakes in New Zealand in the last year highlight how search and rescue teams can still be at base four days after an emergency response.

Surely the time is right for permanent UN humanitarian depots across the Pacific and Caribbean for a response within 12 hours of any crisis. Decommissioned aircraft carriers could be available for the hurricane season with food, water, tents and medicine. It seems astonishing there is no single global emergency response number – similar to 999 in the UK or 112 in the EU – as well as a single web and text helpline.

In Kent, we seem able to fund 76 lawyers on the rates at the county council or £20 million of investments in Japan Tobacco, yet struggle with a dedicated air ambulance and even a single non-emergency number to lead the way across the world in the hour of need.

At the very least, when the flood defences fail and the reactors explode, you might get through to the right call centre in Kent rather than put on hold.

• ***Tim Garbutt is managing director of the Sincerity Agency, based in east Kent. He is standing as an Independent Green mayor for Ramsgate.***

KOS media COMMENT

Just how thin the blue line really is

A COMMON complaint among victims of crime is that there are no longer enough bobbies on the beat to deter offenders.

But even the most supportive of residents will be shocked to hear that fewer than 10 per cent of Kent Police officers are out patrolling at any one time.

Even figures for areas with higher numbers of frontline police have shockingly low numbers, with Merseyside – the place with the largest count – having only 17 per cent of its force out on patrol.

People understand there are spending cuts and forces have to look carefully at how things are run, but having just 10 per cent on the beat will come as a nasty surprise to most. And what kind of message does it send to criminals? They must be rubbing their hands.

If there is more visible policing on the streets, the public are likely to feel reassured and perhaps those planning to break the law will think twice. Even problems such as anti-social behaviour, which can blight communities, can be stemmed if there is a local beat officer deterring troublemakers.

The Chief Constable defended the figure, saying although visibility was important there were other elements of crime fighting which could not be done openly, and that work of other uniformed officers had not been taken into account.

Although this work is appreciated by the community, it does not stop anti-social behaviour and other problems faced by residents which could be sorted out swiftly by an officer pounding the pavement.

Treat your mother to a perfect day

THIS Sunday, treat your mum by sitting her down, pouring her a glass of wine and letting her put her feet up without interruption.

While for many this is a typical Sunday afternoon, for most mothers it's a faded memory of days gone by.

So this Mother's Day treat your mum to some long-awaited rest and relaxation.

Dunkirk spirit alive and well

So Mrs Russell from Ramsgate thinks the British wouldn't behave like the Japanese in an emergency (Letters, last week).

Has she forgotten so soon the incredible tales of bravery during the 7/7 bombings in London, when heroic people saved many lives at great risk to themselves?

What about during the flooding in Cumbria, when neighbours helped each other? What about when there were IRA bombs going off and people rushed to help their fellow men and women? During the Boxing Day tsunami many British holidaymakers and those living in affected areas helped people escape and cope with the aftermath.

There are many instances of ordinary people doing extraordinary things in times of emergency in recent times.

It's a great pity Mrs Russell thinks so little of her fellow Britons to assume there would be looting or indifference in a disaster.

Has she forgotten what we call the Dunkirk spirit, when we all rally round to help those less fortunate?

Howard Johnston, by email

Water power is neglected

We have a large wind farm operating off the Thanet coast. Islay has now installed a tidal turbine that will fulfil all the energy requirements of the island, including running eight distilleries.

It would be interesting to compare the efficiency and output of both. Wind is intermittent; tides are constant, as is the flow of water in rivers. Why, then, has so much Government energy and money been ploughed into the less-reliable wind turbines?

There are other advantages to water turbines. Because they are underwater, there is no visual or sonic impact.

They could pass the electricity directly into the mains in the same way domestic energy producers are supposed to do.

The wind farms are, I believe, built by foreign companies, and the cost of installation is formidable. The ease and cost of installing water turbines would be far less. Moreover, there are several British companies already producing them.

There must be hundreds of rivers and streams in this country with sufficient flow of water to drive them – if a stream can power a watermill, it can drive a turbine. There are loads of ex-watermills on the most unpromising little rivers.

With some Government investment, this could become a thriving industry, and would surely find favour with environmentalists.

Or is there some insurmountable drawback to water power?

Dave Stewart, Deal

Railing against travel expense

As more and more people unfortunately find themselves unemployed and their savings being diminished, getting back to work can be seriously hampered by increased travel costs.

There are astronomically high rail fares, rapidly increasing fuel prices and an expensive and woefully inadequate bus service.

Most people will find they are going to travel a long way if they want work. This will probably involve commuting to London if they are lucky, or further afield.

The cost of a monthly season ticket by rail is up to £475. How many unemployed people can afford that?

And they will not get any help from the Job Centre unless they have been out of work for at least six months.

Sittingbourne and Sheppey MP Gordon Henderson has raised this in Parliament. Before taking a job, the prospective employee has to consider the expense of getting to work and other costs.

If this person pays rent, and council tax – paid for while out of work – these costs have to first to be subtracted from pay, then it is likely this person will then be liable to pay tax.

The monthly figures could be: rent £500; council tax £100; rail fares £475; making a total £1,075. This means the employee has to earn £1,210 a month before they can eat or heat their property. That equates to £14,500 a year.

How many jobs in London pay significantly more than that, for people who have been out of work?

Nationalisation of the railways, as per Official Monster Raving Loony policy, would mean fares could be reduced, so helping people get back into work.

Sheikh Mihand (Jackie Davidson), Official Monster Raving Loony Party candidate for Milton Regis, Sittingbourne

BIRTHS, MARRIAGES AND DEATHS

Including family announcements in partnership with the Kent registration service

To register Births, Marriages and Deaths contact the Kent registration service on 0845 824 7400
For advertising announcement enquiries telephone Kent on Sunday on 01303 817150

BIRTHS

AKRAM
Welcome to the world Kai Teino, born 29th January 2011, to the proud parents Kelly and Habs Akram and big sister Atiya.

BEECHER
James and Sarah are pleased to announce the birth of Thomas John Beecher, born on 9th March 2011, little brother to Jack and Harry.

CHEESEMAN
Paul and Lucy are proud to announce the birth of their gorgeous baby son Charlie Peter Cheeseman, born on 22nd March 2011 at Darent Valley Hospital. A baby brother for Billy and Chelsy.

CHICK
Sarah and Peter of Westbrook are delighted to announce the birth of their beautiful daughter Eliza Faith Chick, born on 13th March 2011 at QEQM Hospital weighing 7lb 3oz. A sister for Joe, Katie, Grace and Marcie.

CHURCH
Dylan born on 22nd March 2011, weighing 7lb 9oz, son to Lee and Crystal and sibling to Jodi and Mason.

FREEMAN
Matthew and Tanya are proud to announce the birth of their beautiful baby daughter Roxanne Molly Freeman, born on 24th March 2011 at Darent Valley Hospital.

GROUT
Janie and Cliff of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Charles Matthew Grout, born at home on 13th March 2011 weighing 10lb. A brother for Alice.

HEWSON
Laura and Nick Hewson celebrate the birth of their son Zachary James Hewson on 15th February 2011.

HOMERSHAM
Harry Rhys Francis born on the 11th March 2011, weighing 10lb 6oz. Son to Lisa and Michael in Maidstone.

LEACH
Jade and David of Ramsgate are delighted to announce the birth of their son Max John David Leach, born on 15th March 2011 at QEQM Hospital, weighing 8lb 10oz. Our most beautiful and precious son.

MACARTNEY
Laura and Phil of Broadstairs celebrate the birth of their beautiful daughter Lilly-May Patricia Macartney on 13th March 2011.

MAKOWSKI
Abbie May Makowski born on 14th March 2011, weighing 4lb 15oz. Daughter to proud parents Beverley and Kevin in Maidstone.

MALKIN
Lilly Ame Malkin, born on the 21st March 2011. All safe and well at 8lbs. We are very proud parents to announce the birth of our chunky monkey!

SKINNER
Claire and Stuart of Minster are delighted to announce the birth of their son Toby Stuart Skinner, born on 14th March 2011 at QEQM Hospital weighing 7lb 7oz. Our most beautiful and precious son.

TURNER
Maria and Paul are delighted to announce the birth of their son Archie Theo Paul Turner, born on 4th March 2011 at QEQM Hospital, weighing 8lb 3oz. Mummy and Daddy's special little angel.

WILSON
Laila Andrea born on 16th March 2011, weighing 9lbs 2ozs. Daughter to Jo and Alex in Manston.

DEATHS

CHAMBERS
Wilfrid Chambers died peacefully on 20th March 2011. Funeral service to be held on 4th April at St Michaels Church, Cuxton, at 10.45am.

CHIVERS
Gwendolyn Elsie Chivers passed away on 25th March 2011. Enquiries to The Co-Op Funeral Care, Dover, Kent, 01304 201581.

GREENWOOD
Hazel Hilda Greenwood of Swalecliffe passed away on March 23rd 2011. Enquiries to Woollard and Kent Funeral Directors, Whitstable, 01227 772300.

JONES
John Frederick Jones passed away 20th March 2011. Dearly loved husband of Jean. Much loved father to Carole and Kevin and father-in-law to Tony and Sharon. A special granddad to Ryan, Chloe and Lynsey. The funeral has already taken place. Donations to Kent Air Ambulance.

RAE
Joan Rae died peacefully on 19th March 2011 aged 90. Dearly loved mother of daughter Wendy and son-in-law Robert, grandmother to Julie and Paul and great grandmother to Zak, Darcie, Chayse, Jack, Tate and Ella.

A siege mentality

As a result of forensic archaeology, we are learning more about the murder of Archbishop Sudbury (Recreating face of murdered bishop, March 27).

He was killed during the Peasants' Revolt because of the high taxes he imposed as Lord Chancellor. Another Archbishop of Canterbury died because of burdensome financial impositions on the people.

St Alphege was captured, along with the Bishop of Rochester, after the siege of Canterbury by the Danes 1,000 years ago. Because he refused to let people pay a huge ransom for his release, the Danes pelted Alphege to death with ox bones on April 19, 1012.

The Church is planning to remember the millennium of St Alphege's martyrdom. But this year is the millennium of the siege of Canterbury, which ended in frightful destruction. We know the exact dates. The siege started on September 8, 1011, and ended with the sack of the city on September 29.

When I have made inquiries, I have found little civic awareness in Kent and Canterbury about the dreadful siege.

But such sufferings of our ancestors should be remembered for ever. It is getting very late to organise events, but there ought to be some official remembrance of the siege of Canterbury.

Frederic Stansfield, Canterbury

Green and so naïve

How kind of Steve Dawe of Kent Green Party to agree with me regarding overpopulation (Letters, last week).

Usually the environmentalists are so high up on their horses they are unable to hear any evidence or facts from mere mortals.

Whatever scientific evidence you can quote, cold, hard logic and common sense dictate that wind turbines, solar panels, battery cars, etc, are just plasters to cover a very large wound, especially on an island constituting less than 0.2 per cent of the world's land mass.

Getting on for three billion people in India and China alone aspire to Western lifestyles, which means millions more cars, more consumption of oil and finite resources, more pollution, etc.

You can save your plastic bags, turn down your heating, use your car less and do all the other things that are supposed to save our planet, but if nothing is done about overpopulation and corporate and government greed, expecting year-on-year growth as the Earth's resources dwindle, you might as well spit in the sea to try to make it deeper.

Unfortunately, profligate governments who try to bribe us with our own money, have a vested interest in an increasing population to pay for their lack of financial acumen.

Save the planet? There's no possible chance of success, just a fools' paradise.

Phil Granger, West Malling

Your deadly flutter

Before readers place a bet on the Grand National, please take a moment to consider what your money may be funding.

Between 2000 and 2010, 31 horses died at the annual three-day meeting at Aintree.

In 2010 alone, five horses were killed – a fact that went largely unreported amid the hype surrounding this event.

The punishing Grand National is Britain's longest horse race – covering a distance of four miles and 856 yards. The horses are required to jump 30 formidable obstacles, some of which include perilous drops, ditches and sharp turns. Forty horses take part – an excessively crowded field – which adds to the risk of collisions and falls. Horse racing is funded by punters' betting money and racecourse attendance fees – in other words, it's financed by you.

As part of Animal Aid's Horse Racing Awareness Week (April 3-9), a graphic billboard will be erected in Liverpool city centre to bring home the grim reality of what happens to thoroughbreds forced to compete in races that confront them with lethal challenges. Our message is simple: don't fund the cruelty; don't bet on the Grand National.

For you it is only a harmless flutter, but horses could pay with their lives.

To order a free horse racing information pack, visit www.animalaid.org.uk.

Fiona Pereira, Animal Aid, Tonbridge

Vespa rides again

For nearly 30 years I've been collecting Vespa motor-scooters and associated memorabilia.

Needless to say, the little Vespa was a huge part of life in the 1950s and '60s when the majority of such vehicles were made.

My modest collection has been a regular feature at classic vehicle shows up and down the country, however, I am shortly to open a 1950s-style café which is to incorporate a Vespa/scooter theme, with badges, banners, pennants, etc, lining the walls.

I am particularly interested in unearthing more Vespa Club of Britain 'cog' badges (approximately 3.5 inches in the shape of a gear cog) which were issued to branch members locally, and to commemorate rallies and meetings.

If any of your readers have such treasures gathering dust, and would be interested in seeing them appreciated by a wider audience, and/or have photos/stories that they wish to share, could they contact me on 07780 136894 (I will be happy to call back), or by email at scooter_cafe_kent@yahoo.co.uk or c/o 226, Woolwich Road, Charlton, SE7 7QU.

Additionally, anyone wishing to keep abreast of progress regarding the opening of the café, feel free to drop me a line. Many thanks.

Peter Selley, Charlton

Propping up the EU

Having listened to the Budget and considered the future outlook, could there ever be a better time to get out of Europe?

Here we are with a country on its knees and we are borrowing billions to prop up Europe, lend money to Ireland and give it away to various countries where it just disappears.

David Cameron, just like Tony Blair, has taken us into another conflict that seems to have no end and costing billions.

The people of this country, from top to bottom, are paying for things nobody wants and it is time for Cameron to give the people a say in the future of his own country instead of risking the lives of our depleted forces so other people can have a say in theirs.

He knows he has no chance of convincing people that it is better to stay in Europe and no right to deny us the referendum that most want.

Start being a bit honest with your own people Mr Cameron, and keep those promises that got you elected. You can also stop using Nick Clegg as a reason for breaking them.

If the people wanted a Lib Dem government, they'd have voted one in.

RE Tucker, Sheerness

Cheer on the team

WellChild, the national charity for sick children, is calling for volunteers to come along and support our dedicated runners in the Virgin London Marathon on Sunday, April 17, at various points around the capital.

Our team of over 150 runners face the gruelling task of taking on 26.2 miles to raise as much as possible to help sick children across the UK. Why not come along and join our renowned pink and purple supporting team in making as much noise as possible cheering them on through the blood, sweat and tears and help show them how much we appreciate their hard work.

If you'd like to be part of such a positive and eventful day – without donning your trainers in support – then we'd love to meet you and invite you to be one of WellChild's team in helping provide a boost to the runners' efforts along the way.

The fun (and it is a lot of fun) begins at approximately 8am and we need your enthusiasm until roughly 6pm. T-shirts, cheer sticks and other merchandise will be provided, as well as ponchos should they be needed. If you are interested, complete our online application form www.wellchild.org.uk.

If you have any inquiries, email me on volunteer@wellchild.org.uk or call 0845 458 8171. We hope you can come along and are looking forward to what will undoubtedly be an inspiring day for all.

Cheryl Clapham, volunteer coordinator, WellChild

Frankenstein meat

A Frankenfarm future edges closer to reality. After factory farming – and the British dairy industry's recent push towards mega-dairies – comes news from the EU that meat and milk from cloned animals will soon be flooding our supermarkets.

And here's the kick, even if we did want to avoid it we won't be able to as it won't be labelled as such.

While some may dismiss this as EU madness, the surprising news is that Caroline Spelman, the Conservative food and farming secretary, led the call to abandon moves to regulate or allow the public to identify milk or meat from clones or their descendants.

So much for consumer choice. Currently, the Food Standards Agency had declared the practice illegal. This will now change, and as there are already over 100 cloned offspring on British farms, milk and meat from them is likely to be on sale here within months.

This is not scaremongering. Very real animal welfare implications have been identified, as cloning can lead a large number of miscarriages, deformed organs and even gigantism. It has the potential to cause suffering and distress in animals that are already worked beyond their natural capacities. This "playing God" could even have unforeseen implications for human health.

The list of reasons to avoid animal products gets longer. From preventing suffering, to improving your health, to protecting the planet – we can now add avoiding products from cloned animals. For free, practical help on how to make the switch to a kinder, more ethical diet contact Viva!, 8 York Court, Wilder Street, Bristol BS2 8QH or phone 0117 944 1000.

Justin Kerswell, Viva!

Felicity's tea party

I am appealing to all animal lovers to join me in supporting the Blue Cross Tea Party, a nationwide fundraising event for animals in need.

Every year, this wonderful charity takes in thousands of unwanted and abandoned pets and horses and gives them a second chance in loving new homes. And its hospitals care for sick and injured animals which would otherwise go untreated.

But they rely on donations from the public to provide this care. You can help by taking part in the Blue Cross Tea Party. Why not hold a tea party for family, friends or work colleagues and ask for donations for Blue Cross?

It's a great excuse to get baking and rustle up some cakes or biscuits for a worthy cause.

All funds raised will help the Blue Cross care for animals with nowhere else to turn, and every penny really does count. So go on, put the kettle on and sign up now at bluecrossteaparty.org.uk, or phone 08444 993 663.

Felicity Kendal, actress

Keep Kent Working! It's jobs for Kent

Keep Kent Working! It's jobs for Kent 2011 Campaign

Rewarding switch into classroom

WOULD-be teachers are being urged to take the plunge and consider a career change into education.

According to the Training and Development Agency for Schools (TDA), more than half of about 11,600 teacher training inquiries in the South East last year were from people looking to change jobs.

Last month the organisation, which is responsible for the training and development of the national school workforce, held a 'discover teaching' seminar at Sandwich Technology School.

South East regional lead Balj Bhinder said: "In Kent we are fortunate to have such a wide choice of excellent places that provide teacher training.

"Teaching is a career that involves a lot of hard work but comes with incredible rewards.

"Immense satisfaction goes hand-in-hand when working with students as you watch them develop and succeed in their studies and there are excellent benefits in terms of earning potential and career development.

"When I visit schools in the county, I am impressed by the students and teachers in equal measure.

"There is always a strong sense of purpose within our schools, and this is testament to the skills of our teachers."

According to the TDA, the number of head teachers aged 30-44 increased by a third between 2004 and 2009.

On average, teachers in the South East earn £35,900 per annum with the potential to earn up to £56,950.

"Since I made the switch to teaching, I've never looked back," said Faye Thorndycroft, a science teacher at the Robert Napier School in Gillingham.

"It's certainly challenging but the rewards are immense. I can see how my work makes a difference to pupils every day.

"Not many professions offer the same sense of fulfilment."

Click on www.teach.gov.uk for more details.

LET'S DO LAUNCH: From left – Marsh Academy chairman of govenors Robert Alston, school head Marion Emptage, Lord Howard, Cllr Paul Carter, executive principal Tracy Luke, head boy Simon Tallis and Damian Collins MP at the House of Lords in Westminster

Skills on the march with Marsh launch

By **STEVE KNIGHT**

steve.knightl@kosmedia.co.uk

A UNIQUE skills festival focusing on careers in and around Romney Marsh will be held next month.

The two-day event, at the Marsh Academy on May 6 and 7, is the first of its kind in Kent and will also provide career guidance and information on apprenticeships.

Kent County Council leader Cllr Paul Carter was among those who attended a party at the House of Lords to officially launch the festival, which is also being supported by City of London livery companies.

He said: "KCC believes emphatically in the need for good vocational and skills training.

"We have shown this over the years with the development of our network of vocational centres and a curriculum which offers quality training for all those who want it.

"The Romney Marsh Skills Festival is a tremendous opportunity to broaden horizons and encourage young people to develop the skills and experience that will help their careers to thrive and prosper in the years ahead."

The first day of the event will see 500 students from across Romney Marsh, Ashford and Shepway take part in taster sessions and speak with young people already working in a sector that interests them, to get advice before making their GCSE option choices.

The second will give talented post-16 students the chance to participate in full-day masterclasses in the six employment sectors of construction, fashion, energy and engineering, IT and telecoms, rural economy, and marine and maritime.

There will also be an exhibition exploring the history and development of Romney Marsh, apprenticeships, career guidance and more.

Folkestone and Hythe MP Damian Collins was also at the launch party, as was his predecessor and former Conservative Party leader, Lord Howard.

Mr Collins said: "The festival is a wonderful opportunity for young people and their parents to learn more about the array of skills, training and careers opportunities that are available.

"It is a great way of raising young people's ambitions and providing new and exciting options as they consider their next steps into work or training.

"The innovative link with the City livery companies adds an exciting new dimension that will present a tremendous mix of new and traditional skills, which I hope will inspire and excite young people as they make important decisions about their future learning and careers."

WHAT is your business doing to help Keep Kent Working?

Are you running an apprenticeship scheme to attract young workers? Are your employees being sent on training courses to aid their personal development? Or are you funding a university scholarship to help find the businessmen and women of the future?

Send your good news stories to steve.knight@kosmedia.co.uk or call 01303 817136.

Train & Retrain

Sponsored by KENT ADULT EDUCATION

The ladder of success

VULNERABLE children from a Folkestone secondary school have successfully completed a unique course run by Kent Fire and Rescue Service.

The BTEC Level 2 fire and rescue service in the community qualification is offered to pupils aged 14 to 16 who struggle in a conventional school environment, and was taken up by nine youngsters from Pent Valley Technology College.

In addition to teaching specific firefighting skills, the course also attempts to tackle antisocial behaviour and negative attitudes towards authority.

Community safety manager Charlie Smith said: "The course provides a vocational learning opportunity to a diverse range of young people who may struggle to achieve academic success within traditional styles of learning.

"By working away from the classroom environment and interacting with professional firefighters and instructors, students engage and develop a positive approach to learning, building their self-esteem and confidence.

"The course also helps to raise their sense of personal responsibility and improve social awareness of community issues such as fire prevention and the consequences of arson."

Joint-funded by Kent Fire and Rescue and the Shepway Community Safety Partnership (CSP), the BTEC is equivalent to a GCSE at grade A-C level.

The youngsters who took part spent six weeks training at Folkestone fire station.

CSP antisocial behaviour manager Shaun Taylor said: "The positive change in behaviour and impact on the young people has been evident throughout the course.

"The most pleasing moment for me was when one of the boys' grandmother saw the final exercise and was overwhelmed by how her grandson's attitude had changed for the better."

HIGH RISE: Gary Kellett and Akram Fahmi with course leader John Bell, right

Reaching for the sky

TWO architecture students from the University for the Creative Arts have received honourable mentions in a major international skyscraper competition.

Final year students Gary Kellett and Akram Fahmi, who are both based on the Canterbury campus, were praised by a panel of judges working on the eVolo Magazine contest. The competition recognises outstanding ideas that redefine skyscraper design through the use of new technologies, materials, programmes and so on.

UCA course leader John Bell said: "It is a great achievement for Gary and Akram individually, and for the graduate diploma at UCA Canterbury, that we have managed to gain two honourable mentions in this prestigious competition.

"They both took strong environmental stances in their submissions and challenged conventional notions of the skyscraper, which is why I believe they did so well.

"Their projects were submitted within the first few weeks of the first semester, which makes their achievements all the more gratifying."

Dramatic 10-week episode

MEDWAY Adult and Community Learning Service is offering a second playwriting course following the popularity of the first.

The 10-week course costs £57 and starts on Wednesday, April 27, at the adult education centre in Green Street, Gillingham.

Each session will run from 7-9pm.

The course will be taught by Paul Doust, a professional scriptwriter who has published his own plays and has experience of writing for EastEnders. He will teach students how to choose a story, lay out the script, use surprise and suspense, write character speech, and reveal characters through action.

Call 01634 338429 for more information or to enrol.

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BEHAVIOUR MANAGEMENT
9 March 2011 or 15 June 2011, 9.00 - 12.30pm
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22 March 2011 or 17 May 2011, 9.30 - 3.30pm

All courses are delivered at the Training Solutions Business Centre at Manston Park.

For more information, please contact the **Training Solutions Team** on **01843 605032** or email **training.solutions@thanet.ac.uk**

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01634 402020

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All candidates must come from an Engineering/Construction background with a proven track record in Quantity Surveying. Applicants must be commercially aware in dealing with subcontract payments, interim monthly accounts, re-measurement, controlling multiple contracts to budgetary requirements and final accounting.

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Mr Nick Hamer, Piper Double Glazing Limited,
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Co-ordinator

Thanet Kidz Klub

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TKK in partnership with Church Army are seeking to appoint an exceptionally gifted Christian person to plan, organise and deliver a term time Kidz Klub for the area. Included will be responsibility for administration, the budget, fund raising and volunteers.

Additionally the Co-ordinator will have responsibility for developing the work across the churches of Thanet.

Based in The Marlowe Innovation Centre in Ramsgate the Saturday morning Kidz Klub takes place in the adjacent Marlowe Academy along with evening home visiting during the week.

If you are experienced in working with children of primary school age and feel you can take this one year old ecumenical project forward please send your CV with covering letter to:
Mrs G. E. Trumble, Thanet Kidz Klub, The Marlowe Innovation Centre, Stirling Way, Ramsgate CT12 6NA.

This position is subject to an Enhanced CRB.

Closing date for receipt of applications 20th April. Interviews 28th April.

TKK is in the process of applying for independent charitable status.

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Glendale Appointment

Coblands Nurseries Ltd

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Based at Tonbridge • £5.93 per hour based on a 40 hour week

This position is available on a temporary basis for immediate start until the 21st April 2011. The successful candidate will be required to work 5 days a week, Monday to Friday with extra hours as required. This role will involve potting, weeding and general maintenance of a wide range of container grown plants. The ideal candidate will work well as part of a team, be self-motivated and have a positive outlook on life.

If you feel you have the necessary skills for this position, please send your CV and letter of application to Jo Dury, Coblands Nurseries Ltd, Trench Road, Tonbridge, Kent TN11 9NG or email Jo.dury@coblands.co.uk
Closing date: - 4th April 2011 www.coblands.co.uk

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Reply to 01843 833242

KALC

COUNTY SECRETARY

(Chief Executive Officer)

(£30,851 – £ 35,430)

The Kent Association of Local Councils is recruiting a County Secretary from June 2011, to secure the administration, management and funding for the Association. You will head a small team whose role is to provide quality legal and technical advice, high standard training, the dissemination of new information and the maintenance of regular communication between our office in Folkestone and our almost 300 member Parish and Town Councils,

Ideally you will be an enthusiastic professional person, preferably with a background in, or understanding of, Local Government. You will need to have excellent administration and management skills. You will also need good inter-personal and general communication skills, have experience of servicing and leading meetings and be a confident public speaker.

You will need to be flexible and there will be some evening and weekend work.

Closing date: 4th April 2011

For application form and job description contact 01303 248252 or email kalc@btconnect.com

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The person we are seeking will be an energetic and enthusiastic individual with excellent sales skills, a self starter; tenacious and will have excellent verbal and written communication ability. You will need to demonstrate a proven sales track record, preferably from within media (although this is not essential,) will have a good understanding of the benefits of printed, online and live media. Knowledge of the Kent marketplace would be beneficial.

Please apply with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:
Christine Davidson, Commercial Director
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA,
Apple Barn, Hythe Road,
Smeeth, Ashford, Kent TN25 6SS
Or by email christine.davidson@kosmedia.co.uk

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Please apply in writing with your CV and covering letter in the first instance to:
Ynez Coton, Commercial Director,
ARCHANT KOS MEDIA
Apple Barn, Hythe Rd
Smeeth, Ashford Kent TN25 6SS
Or email ynez.coton@kosmedia.co.uk

ARCHANT KOS MEDIA

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An experienced Sales Specialist is being sought for our Honda dealership based in Canterbury. We are seeking a professional individual with a proven track record in both sales and customer satisfaction. We are pleased to report that our Honda dealership is achieving well towards our targeted numbers and this additional position will enable us to exceed objective.

Please send your CV to Mrs Lana Farr at:
Barretts of Canterbury Ltd, 28 - 30 St Peter Street, Canterbury, CT1 2BL

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ASHFORD INTERNATIONAL HOTEL

Ashford International Hotel is currently looking for two experienced managers to join our team

Deputy General Manager

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As Operations Manager you'll be reporting directly to the General Manager and be taking the reins when they're not around. You'll be responsible for the daily operation of your hotel with a specific focus on food and beverage, conferences and events. Ultimately, it's about growing and developing the operational areas of our business to ensure we achieve our profit targets, so you will also be involved in development of the hotel business strategy and budget, as well as assisting with the forecast on a weekly basis. And because we don't believe in strict corporate guidelines, you'll have freedom to make your own decisions and think up new and creative ways to get results. Previous Hotel Experience is essential for this role

Front of House Manager

£19,000 to £21,000 per annum dependant on experience

As Reception Manager you'll lead, inspire and motivate the Reception team to handle check in and check out to give a great first and last impression making sure that our guests have everything they need to be comfortable and enjoy their stay. Our Reception team thrives on pressure and are nothing if not flexible, welcoming and, quite frankly, amazing at all times! We also know that each and every one of our guests wants to be made to feel special, so no lengthy standards checklists for us! You'll just use your instinct to build a great rapport and deliver our distinctively memorable one of a kind service.

Contact information

If you are interested in applying for this position, please forward your CV and covering letter to **Jemma Wilkins**, HR Manager at **Jwilkins@qhotels.co.uk** or apply online at www.qhotels.co.uk

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Required for September 2011

SPORTS COLLEGES

Head of Business Studies and ICT

(TLR 1a)

We are looking for a dynamic new leader for our Business Studies and ICT Faculty. The school has invested heavily recently in quality equipment and a VLE. Business is the second specialist subject here and a popular option. The Faculty is linked with Technology and together drive the school's enterprise work. But there is more to do.

Are you:

- A good leader and motivator of both adults and children;
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Closing date for applications: 4pm 6th April 2011
Date of interviews: Week beginning 2nd May 2011

Application forms and information from:
Susan Allison, Meopham School, Wrotham Road,
Meopham, Kent. DA13 0AH
Telephone: 01474 814646 x234
Email: sal@meopham.kent.sch.uk
Visit: www.meopham.kent.sch.uk

All our posts are subject to stringent child protection checks.

Required for September 2011

SPORTS COLLEGES

Head of Creative Arts

(TLR1b)

We are looking for an experienced and dynamic leader for Art, Dance, Drama, Media and Music, from September 2011.

We welcome applications from individuals who can demonstrate a passion for the Arts, and who have a real understanding of how students learn kinaesthetically.. We have gained Artsmark award. There is good informal collaboration between departments through the school's excellent performances and festivals. We are now looking for someone to develop the faculty even further to provide outstanding teaching & learning for the 21st century. We are fortunate in having an innovative Creative Arts department which has recently taken a major role in developing enquiry based learning in the school. Team working is excellent.
This is a perfect opportunity for a dynamic leader who is keen to excite and challenge both pupils and staff in the pursuit of excellence on the next stage of our journey.

Closing date for applications: 4pm 6th April 2011
Date of interviews: Week beginning 2nd May 2011

Application forms and information from:
Susan Allison, Personnel Officer, Meopham School,
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Closing date: 12.00 noon on Monday 4 April
Interviews w/c 4 April

MHF is committed to the safeguarding of all young people and this post will be subject to an enhanced CRB and CV check

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Information Tech, Internet, Telecoms

Office & IT Manager

Ashford

Salary £23,000- £25,000

Office & IT Manager

We are seeking a highly-organised and self-motivated Office and IT Manager to run our busy grant-making office. Kent Community Foundation is an energetic and ambitious charity that supports hundreds of voluntary and community organisations across Kent and Medway. So if you want to make a difference to your local community, this could be the job for you. We are looking for someone with a logical and systematic approach as well as a passion for technology and new media who can lead on our IT strategy. You will have a positive, can-do approach working as part of a small hard-working and enthusiastic team, with excellent communication and customer service skills. To find out more about this role, please email admin@kentcf.org.uk or phone 01303 814 500. Salary: £23,000-£25,000 Full-time. Permanent.

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Kent Community Foundation

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Development and Marketing Officer We are seeking a self-motivated Development and Marketing Officer to support the growth and expansion of Kent Community Foundation. We are an energetic and ambitious charity that supports hundreds of voluntary and community organisations across Kent and Medway. So if you want to make a difference to your local community, this could be the job for you. We are looking for someone with a successful track record in a business development role. Charity fundraising experience would be helpful but not essential. What is most important is excellent communication and relationship-building skills. You will have a positive, can-do approach working as part of a small hard-working and enthusiastic team, with excellent customer service skills. To find out more about this role, please email admin@kentcf.org.uk or phone 01303 814 500. Salary: c. £21,000-£23,000. Full-time. Permanent.

To apply/more information:

Kent Community Foundation

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include reference number: KOS01. Closing date:

Friday 15th April 2011. Please note that responses will only be issued to applicants that are eligible for interview.

To apply/more information:

Headley Brothers Limited

andy.owden@headley.co.uk

Quoting Job Ref: kos01

Required for September 2011

SPORTS COLLEGES

Full time Female Teacher of PE

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Closing date for applications: 4pm 6th April 2011
Date of interviews: Week beginning 2nd May 2011

Application forms and information from:
Susan Allison, Personnel Officer, Meopham School,
Wrotham Road, Meopham, Kent. DA13 0AH
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Interview date: **Monday 9 May 2011**

For further details and to apply online please visit our website www.thanet.ac.uk and click on 'About us' and then 'Vacancies'. Alternatively contact the HR office, Thanet College, Ramsgate Road, Broadstairs, Kent, CT10 1PN or telephone our application line for an application pack on (01843) 605052

Closing date for both posts: **Wednesday 13 April 2011**

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Evidence of continual professional development

To discuss these opportunities or to arrange an informal visit, please contact
Sue Bowe – Outpatient Sister or Carolyn Flegg – Staff Nurse, on 01843 234555 Ext: 63425
For job description and application form please contact:
Jo Edwards, East Kent Medical Services Ltd, The Spencer Wing, QEQM Hospital, Ramsgate Road, Margate, Kent CT9 4BG
Telephone: 01843 234556 Fax: 01843 296333
E-mail: jo.edwards@thespencerwing.com

The Spencer Wing is an equal opportunity employer

These positions are subject to a Criminal Records Bureau Disclosure check

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Westlands Academies Trust

THE WESTLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL
Westlands Avenue, Sittingbourne, Kent ME10 1PF

Site Maintenance Technician/Caretaker

37 hours a week from 11am – 7pm Mondays-Friday
Kent Pay Band 3 - £14,099 - £15,984

Extra payments will be made to cover any out-of-hours lettings during evenings and weekends and for weekend/Bank Holiday standby duty, all of which are carried out on a mandatory, shared rota basis. Applicants must be prepared to work a variety of hours, should the need arise.

The successful applicant will work as a member of the Site Maintenance team. As well as general caretaking duties they will be expected to undertake site maintenance, and so a good working knowledge and experience with carpentry, electrics, plumbing and decorating is essential. An awareness of swimming pool maintenance would be an advantage.

You are welcome to contact the school for a preliminary discussion if desired. Recruitment packs are available from the school or online. Please note, we cannot accept CVs without an application form.

Closing date: 6 April 2011 Interviews: 8 April 2011

Westlands Academies Trust is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment. This post is subject to an enhanced CRB check.

Tel: 01795 470862 Fax: 01795 477886
Email: swa@westlands.kent.sch.uk
Executive Headteacher: Mr J Whitcombe MA
Westlands Academies Trust Holmewood Avenue
Sittingbourne Kent ME10 1XN
Company No 7344732

Required for September 2011

SPORTS COLLEGES

Head of Agricultural Studies

TLR2

This is an exciting new post and a great opportunity for promotion for someone who already has experience of teaching aspects of land-based and environmental sciences and has the background to run and develop our School Farm. You will need to send for the details to really understand this unusual post but, in brief:

- Teach a BTEC qualification in KS4 and Sixth Form
- Teach practical, land-based modules in KS3 science
- Manage the farm and the stock people
- Manage an extensive extra-curricular programme through the Young Farmers Club network
- Lead the development of our farm rebuild

Closing date for applications: 4pm 28th April 2011
Date of interviews: Week beginning 9th May 2011

Application forms and information from:
Susan Allison, Personnel Officer, Meopham School,
Wrotham Road, Meopham, Kent. DA13 0AH
Telephone: 01474 814646 x234
Email: sal@meopham.kent.sch.uk
Visit: www.meopham.kent.sch.uk

All our posts are subject to stringent child protection checks

Sir Joseph Williamson's Mathematical School

Maidstone Road Rochester Kent ME1 3EL
Tel: 01634 844008 Email: harrisonj@sirjosephwilliamson.medway.sch.uk

A Voluntary Controlled School with specialisms in Mathematics, Computing and Humanities
An 11-18 Boys' Grammar School of 1180 students including 300 in the co-educational Sixth Form

We require a full time

COVER SUPERVISOR

who would be prepared to act as a Pastoral Support Assistant for 37 hours per week, term time only, to start in May 2011.
Salary will be according to age and experience and will be paid at Medway Grade D2 – Salary range £15,039 - £19,126 pro rata.

Would you be able to liaise with parents, teachers and other professionals in support of individuals?
Would you be interested in developing your skills with classes of young people?

If so, please contact Mrs J Harrison, Headteacher's PA, for an application form and job specification on 01634 844008.

Any offer of employment will be subject to a satisfactory Enhanced Criminal Records Bureau check

Closing date for applications – Wednesday, 6th April 2011

Find a job online

Register your details and we'll email you daily with new jobs that match your selected criteria

JobsforKent.co.uk
The smart way to find a job in the County

To advertise in this section or online
01303 817040

PREMISES LICENSE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given that Lal Ram of 57 St Peters Street, Canterbury Kent CT1 2BE has applied to Canterbury City Council for the grant an Off-License (Provision of Alcohol. Standard hours: Monday – Saturday 06:00 – 22:00, Sunday 07:00 – 22:00. No alcohol to be consumed on the premises for the premises Binnewith News situated at 57 St Peters Street, Canterbury Kent CT1 2BE.

All representations to this application must be in writing and delivered to the Licensing team, Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, CT1 1YW. It must not be delivered to any other council premises.

A register of licensing applications can be inspected at http://www.canterbury.gov.uk/licensing or at Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent CT1 1YW Tel. 01227 862000 by appointment with the Licensing Team between 10am and 4pm Monday to Friday. Any person wishing to submit representations to my/our application must give notice in writing to the address shown above, giving in detail the grounds of objection by 28th April 2011.

The Council will not entertain representations where the writer requests that his identity remains anonymous. Copies of all representation will be included in the papers presented to the Licensing Panel and will therefore pass into the public domain. Representations must relate to one of the four Licensing Objectives: the prevention of crime and disorder, public safety, the prevention of public nuisance and the protection of children from harm. In the case of an application for a provisional statement, please note that representations will be restricted once a statement has been issued.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PUBLIC NOTICE

Property Address: 9 Kenwood Avenue, Lordswood, Chatham, Kent, ME5 8HS

Notice of Offer

By order of the mortgagees in possession, we would advise that an offer has been made for the above property in the sum of £135,000. Any person wishing to increase on this offer should notify the selling agents of their best offer to be made either prior to exchange of contracts or within the next 7 days which ever is sooner.

Agent Contact Details:
Mann Countrywide, 126 High Street, Chatham, Kent, ME4 4BY

Tel.No: 01634 843277

PLANNING

NOTICE OF APPLICATION FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010
NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13

KCC/DO/0100/2011 - Proposed development at 4 locations in Dover, rear car park at 1-10 Brookfield Place, CT16 2AE, 2 St Radigunds Road, CT17 0JX, 1-10 Maison Dieu Road car park, CT16 1RN, and Buckland Mill Development, Crabble Hill, CT17 0RZ.

Southern Water Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for kiosks and vents at three locations in Dover in support of flood alleviation sewer improvements supported by one temporary contractor's compound on vacant land at Crabble Hill, Dover.

You may view this application at Dover District Council, Council Offices, White Cliffs Business Park, Dover, Kent, CT16 3PJ or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

KCC/MA/0109/2011 - Proposed development at Leeds Wastewater Treatment Works, Penfold Hill, Leeds, Maidstone, Kent, ME17 1RR.

Southern Water Limited is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for construction of a Motor Control Centre Kiosk and a ferric dosing package plant Kiosk at Leeds Wasterwater Treatment Works (WTW).

You may view this application at Maidstone Borough Council, The Gateway Reception, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME15 6JQ or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

KCC/TW/0121/2011 - Proposed development at Langton Green Primary School, Lampington Row, Langton Green, Tunbridge Wells Kent, TN3 0JG.

Kent County Council Children, Families and Education is applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the placement of one, six bay modular building. The proposed development does not accord with the provisions of the development plan in force in the area in which the land to which the application relates is situated, as it is within the Metropolitan Green Belt.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 OF THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND) ORDER 2010 AND UNDER THE PLANNING (LISTED BUILDING AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990

KCC/CA/0045/2011 - Proposed development at Chislet CEP School, Church Lane, Chislet, Canterbury, Kent, CT3 4DU.

Kent County Council Property Group is applying to Kent County Council Planning Applications Group for the proposed demolition of existing single storey flat roofed rear extension and replacement with a larger single storey extension to incorporate a care suite and storage area. The proposed development is within a Conservation Area and may affect its character and/or appearance.

You may view this application at Canterbury City Council Offices, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

KCC/TW/0119/2011 - Proposed development at Speldhurst CE Primary School, Langton Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN3 0NP.

The Trustees of the School House Trust are applying to Kent County Council for planning permission for the provision of an early years canopy. The proposed development is adjacent to a Conservation Area and could affect its character and/or appearance. The proposed development affects a Listed Building.

You may view this application at Tunbridge Wells Borough Council Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells, Kent, TN1 2AB or at our offices at the address below during all reasonable office hours. Alternatively, details of the application can be viewed on Kent County Council's website at www.kent.gov.uk/planning.

We accept comments online via our website, by email to planning.applications@kent.gov.uk or in writing to Planning Applications Group, Kent County Council, First Floor, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX within 21 days from the date of this notice. Please quote the application reference number and note that comments may be drawn to the attention of Council Members, the applicant and other interested persons.

Sharon Thompson
Head of Planning Applications Group
Kent County Council
Dated: 3 April 2011

Kent County Council

Town and Country Planning Acts

The Council is required to give notice of the following applications

11/00682/HOUSE Scribbins Walkhurst Road, Benenden
- New garage (amendment to TW/10/02525/FUL) (LB)

11/00754/FUL OS Plot 6287 Iden Green Road, Benenden
- Provision of 5 No. dwellings for Local Needs Affordable Housing including associated access, hard and soft landscaping (CA) (LB) (PROW)

11/00753/LBC Portobello Holly Bank, Brenchley
- Listed Building Consent: Paint front and north elevations to match existing (LB)

11/00785/HOUSE Farm Oast Smugley Farm, Goudhurst
- New external covered porch to entrance of converted oasthouse; Replacement of internal stairs and remodelling of internal accommodation of studio outbuilding; New door in lieu of existing window to south west elevation, new double height window in lieu of existing French doors and first floor window; New external door to boiler cupboard to south east elevation; New velux rooflights (LB)

11/00813/LBC Meadow View Jarvis Lane, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Refurbishment of pair of listed cottages to include repairs to roof with replacements of sections of gutter and tiles; installation of oil fired boilers; replacement kitchens and bathrooms; replacement of all windows (LB)

11/00841/HOUSE 1 Hunts Lane Goudhurst, Goudhurst
- Refurbishment and two storey side extension (CA) (LB)

11/00845/LBC 1 Hunts Lane Goudhurst, Goudhurst
- Listed Building Consent: Refurbishment and two storey side extension (LB)

11/00606/LBC 2 Roses Farm Cranbrook Road, Hawkhurst
- Listed Building Consent - Create internal doorway at site of sealed window; Replace and splice decayed timber; Upgrade internal walls of the outhouse; Replace existing modern timbers with reclaimed revealed oak studs, horsehair and lime plaster between selected lathes; Repair secondary chimney stack (LB)

11/00710/HOUSE Weald House Ockley Road, Hawkhurst
- Reinstatement of fire damaged building and increase in height of eaves (LB) (CA)

11/00820/HOUSE Yew Tree Hall House Yew Tree Green Road, Horsmonden
- Rear dormer (LB)

11/00825/LBC Yew Tree Hall House Yew Tree Green Road, Horsmonden
- Listed Building Consent: Rear dormer (LB)

11/00706/LBC 4 Bedford Terrace Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed Building Consent: Internal refurbishment, installation of a discreet cornice to the hallway and principle rooms. Replacement of two fireplaces which have been removed and blocking up of archway in the basement. The removal of white tiles put on the front basement wall in the 70s (LB)

11/00759/LBC 4 Bedford Terrace Royal Tunbridge Wells, Pantiles & St Marks
- Listed Building Consent - Rewire property, repair and replace damp course, replace leaking central heating and rainwater pipes and extend waste water pipe to new bathroom location (LB)

11/00851/LBC Stanton House Romford Road, Pembury
- Listed Building Consent - Addition of two solar panels (LB)

11/00681/HOUSE The Lodge Pembury Road, Sherwood
- Single-storey extension (CA)

11/00683/HOUSE Snowdrop House Speldhurst Road, Speldhurst
- Conservatory to rear elevation (CA)

11/00844/HOUSE The Glebe House Langton Road, Speldhurst
- Removal and replacement of the existing external first floor vertical tiling to three elevations (LB) (CA)

(DEVPLN) Departure from the Development Plan (PROW) Affecting A Public Right of Way (CA) Affecting a Conservation Area (LB) Affecting a Listed Building (MAJOR) Major Applications (MAST) Mast Applications (EIA) Applications Accompanied by an EIA Statement.

You may view these applications on our website (www.tunbridgewells.gov.uk), at the The Old Fire Station, Stone Street, Cranbrook or at Gateway, 8 Grosvenor Road, Tunbridge Wells. We accept comments online, by email to planningcomments@tunbridgewells.gov.uk or in writing to the address below. Comments should be made within 21 days from the date of this notice, although we may accept them after this date.

You should quote the reference and be aware that we make all comments available for inspection, placing them on the file and publishing them on the internet. We do not publish signatures, telephone numbers or email addresses on the internet.

Jim Kehoe
Head of Planning Services
Town Hall Royal Tunbridge Wells TN1 1RS

Dated: 2 April 2011

Tunbridge Wells Borough Council

COMERCIAL NOTICE

MAIDSTONE Borough Council

Adoption Notice
Sexual Entertainment Venues
Licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues

Notice is hereby given that on the 2nd March 2011 Maidstone Borough Council passed a Resolution in exercise of their powers under Part 2 of the Local Government (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 1982, to adopt Schedule 3 of the Act as amended by Section 27 of the Policing and Crime Act 2009 for the licensing of Sexual Entertainment Venues. The resolution will come into force on the 1st May 2011.

The effect of this resolution is that sexual entertainment venues that provide 'relevant entertainment' as defined under the Act will need to be licensed by Maidstone Borough Council unless the requirement for a licence has been waived. There will be an opportunity for members of the public and enforcement agencies to object to the grant, renewal and transfer of licences and licences may be be granted, granted with conditions or refused.

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS – Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

(WILLOW WENTS, MEREWORTH) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Willow Wents Mereworth, between Horns Lane and New Pound Lane on or after Monday 18th April 2011 for a period of up to 5 days or until such works are complete.

The alternative route is via New Pound Lane, Beech Road and Horns Lane and vice versa.

UK power Networks apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works that are necessary to fit a new electrical supply. Should you require any further information about these works, their contact is Jenny Hayes on 07836 297415.

KATHERINE KERSWELL
Group Managing Director
Kent County Council
County Hall, Maidstone Kent ME14 2XQ

For further information please contact Kent Highway Services on 08458 247 800 local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent Highway Services

To place your notice here call the Kent Public Notice team on
01303 817044

HIGHWAYS

HIGHWAYS - District of Ashford

BROMLEY GREEN ROAD, RUCKINGE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Bromley Green Road, Ruckinge, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 5 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed in rolling sections between the junctions with Capel Road and Hornash Lane.

The alternative route is via Capel Road and Hamstreet Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, ASHFORD (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Ashford, as part of a programme of highway repairs and resurfacing.

The Order takes effect on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. Where roads are closed for several days, the closures are planned for weekdays but some weekend working may be involved to catch up dates missed. Where roads are closed twice, the initial closure is 1 day for Surfacing and then a further 1 day for sweeping and lining.

WYE ROAD, WYE / FOLLY TOWN, WYE / THE STREET, HASTINGLEIGH -
from Amage Road, Wye

Between 7 April and 18 April 2011
Alternative route via Scotton Street, High Street, Churchfield Way, Bramble Lane, A28 Canterbury Road, Ashford Road, White Hill, Shalmsford Street, The Downs, Chartham Downs Road, B2068 Faussett Hill, Stone Street, Thorne Lane, Dean Hill and Elvington Park

CHURCH LANE / LONGROPE, SHADOXHURST from Woodchurch Road to Birchett Lane
Between 14 April and 19 April 2011
Alternative route via Woodchurch Road, Hornash Lane, Hamstreet Road and Birchett Lane

PLURENDEN ROAD, WOODCHURCH – between Shadoxhurst Road and Bethersden Road
Between 15 April and 21 April 2011
Alternative route via Shadoxhurst Road, Redbrook Street and Bethersden Road

MAYTHAM ROAD, ROLVENDEN between Frogs Lane and Wittersham Rd Railway Station
Between 19 April and 5 May 2011
Alternative route via A28 High Street, Tenterden Road, Rolvenden Hill, Rolvenden Road, Small Hythe Road and Wittersham Road

GIGGERS GREEN ROAD, ALDINGTON
Surfacing on 10 May 2011 (1 day) then sweeping & lining on 17 May 2011 (1 day)
Alternative route via B2067 Knoll Hill, Roman Road, Aldington Road, Lympne Hill, West Hythe Road and Lower Wall Road

ASHFORD ROAD, BILSINGTON – from Bilsington Crossroads to Frith Road
Surfacing on 16 May 2011 (1 day) then sweeping & lining on 23 May 2011 (1 day)
Alternative route via Frith Road, Bank Road, Forge Hill, New Road Hill and B2067 Bilsington Road

CAGE LANE, SMARDEN – from Beult Meadow to Biddenden Road
Surfacing on 18 May 2011 (1 day) then sweeping & lining on 25 May 2011 (1 day)
Water Lane, Bell Lane, Burnthouse Lane and Biddenden Rd

IDEN LANE, EGERTON - for entire length
Between 20 June and 23 June 2011
There is no alternative route as it is a No Through Road. Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so

The works are weather dependant and may be affected by adverse conditions and operational changes. Works that are missed will be deferred until later in the programme with the revised dates signposted on site.

HIGHWAYS - District of Cantebury

CHURCH LANE, KINGSTON, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of ducting works for BT Openreach, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Church Lane, Kingston, Canterbury, on or after 18 April 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside numbers 1-2 Church Lane.

The alternative route is via The Street, Valley Road, Covet Lane, Black Robin Lane and Church Lane.

MORTIMER STREET AND NORTH STREET, HERNE BAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mortimer Street, Herne Bay, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 3 weeks or until the works have been completed.

Mortimer Street will be closed between the junctions with North Street and East Street.

The alternative route is via North Street, High Street and East Street.

North Street will become One-way, southbound only, between the junctions with Charles Street and Mortimer Street.

The alternative route for northbound traffic is via High Street, East Street, Charles Street and North Street.

Chapel Street will be closed between the car park entrance and the junction with Mortimer Street, and can be accessed via Charles Street and North Street.

POUND LANE, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of ducting works on behalf of BT Openreach, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Pound Lane, Canterbury, on or after 18 April 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junction with St Dunstan's Street and the entrance to Pound Lane Car Park.

Access for local residents and businesses will be maintained up to the point of closure, whenever it is safe to do so.

The alternative route is via North Lane, The Causeway and Pound Lane.

THE STREET, KINGSTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of BT underground cabling works, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on The Street, Kingston, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 4 days or until the works have been completed.

It is planned the works will be carried out off peak between 9.30 am and 4.00 pm with the road re-opened outside these hours.

The road will be closed outside 52-56 The Street. There will be no access for through traffic between the junctions with Church Lane and Marley Lane / Westwood Road.

The alternative route is via Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane, Covet Lane, Turks Hill, Westwood Road and The Street.

WINGHAM LANE, ICKHAM, CANTERBURY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

To enable ducting works to be carried out on behalf of BT Openreach, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Wingham Lane (also known as Wingham Road), Ickham, Canterbury, on or after 18 April 2011 for up to 2 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with School Lane and Bay Lane.

The alternative routes are
Westbound via Wingham Lane, A257 Canterbury Road, Cherville lane and School Lane
Eastbound via Wickham Road, Nargate Street, A257 Wingham Road, Canterbury Road and Wingham Lane.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Dartford

CHURCH HILL, STONE - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Church Hill, Stone adjacent to level crossing.

The Order will become effective on 4th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 2 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Crossways Boulevard and Cotton Lane

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate Network Rail engineering works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Dover

MONGEHAM ROAD, GREAT MONGEHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of gully repairs and carriageway resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Mongeham Road, Great Mongeham, on or after 18 April 2011 for up to 5 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with St Richard's Road and Northbourne Road.

The alternative route is via St Richard's Road, Cross Road, Ellens Road, Ellens Hill and Mongeham Road.

VICARAGE LANE, NONINGTON (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Vicarage Lane, Nonington, on or after 19 April 2011 for up to 3 days or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed between the junctions with Easole Street and Church Street.

The alternative route is via Holt Street, Butter Street and Church Street.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Maidstone

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (TOWER LANE, BEARSTED) (PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because works are proposed to be carried out on or near a road the Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting the use by through traffic on Tower Lane from Roseacre Lane for 110m in a westerly direction on or after Tuesday 19th April 2011 for a period of up to 2 weeks or until such works are completed.

The alternative route is via Yeoman Lane, A20 Ashford Road, Roseacre Lane.

BT Openreach apologise for any inconvenience caused by these works, which are necessary for cabling works. Should you require any further information for these works, please contact Louise Skull on 0870 0500792.

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (VARIOUS ROADS, MAIDSTONE, TONBRIDGE & MALLING, DARTFORD, GRAVESHAM, SEVENOAKS) (50MPH SPEED RESTRICTION) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY HE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

NOTICE is hereby given that because of the likelihood of danger to the public using a road the Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting the use by vehicular traffic travelling at any speed greater than 50mph on the routes described in the Schedule.

The Order will become effective on Monday 4th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months.

Schedule

Road Name:	A206 Bob Dunn Way, Dartford
Extent:	From the A282 to the roundabout with the A2026 Burnham Road
Dates:	Start: 4th April 2011 End: 7th April 2011
Dates:	Start: 8th August 2011 End: 11th August 2011
Road Name:	A289 Hasted Road, Gravesend (Wainscott Bypass)
Extent:	From M2 junction 1 to the Dillywood Lane Bridge
Dates:	Start: 8th April 2011 End: 15th April 2011
Dates:	Start: 12th August 2011 End: 19th August 2011
Road Name:	A2018 Shepherd Lane, Dartford
Extent:	From the roundabout of the A2 to the existing 40mph speed limit 100m before the roundabout with Rochester Way
Dates:	Start: 28th April 2011 End: 28th April 2011
Dates:	Start: 31st August 2011 End: 31st August 2011
Road Name:	A229 Bluebell Hill
Extent:	From the existing 50mph speed limit 30m Maidstone side of the Cobtree Manor Park entrance to the existing 50mph speed restriction 1/4mile from the M2 junction 3
Dates:	Start: 3rd May 2011 End: 10th May 2011
Dates:	Start: 1st September 2011 End: 8th September 2011
Road Name:	A249 Detling Hill M2 to Bearsted Road, Maidstone
Extent:	From the roundabout with Bearsted Road (Newnham Court Farm) to existing 50mph speed limit 250m Detling side of Harple Lane From existing 50mph speed limit 40m Detling side of Osbourne Drive
Dates:	Start: 11th May 2011 End: 18th May 2011
Dates:	Start: 9th September 2011 End: 16th September 2011
Road Name:	A20 Ashford Road, Maidstone
Extent:	From Old Mill Road to 50m Ashford side of the roundabout with the B2163 Penfold Hill
Dates:	Start: 19th May 2011 End: 19th May 2011
Dates:	Start: 19th September 2011 End: 19th September 2011
Road Name:	A20 Coldharbour Lane, Maidstone
Extent:	From the roundabout of the M20 junction 5 to the roundabout of the A20 London Road From the A20 London Road to the roundabout with St Laurence Road
Dates:	Start: 19th May 2011 End: 19th May 2011
Dates:	Start: 19th September 2011 End: 19th September 2011
Road Name:	A228 Snodland Bypass
Extent:	From outside Whittings Farm to the existing 40mph outside the Water Treatment works
Dates:	Start: 5th July 2011 End: 6th July 2011
Dates:	Start: 20th September 2011 End: 21st September 2011
Road Name:	A228 Hale Street Bypass
Extent:	From the roundabout with the B2015 to the roundabout with the B2160 Maidstone Road
Dates:	Start: 14th July 2011 End: 15th July 2011
Dates:	Start: 29th September 2011 End: 30th September 2011
Road Name:	A25 Sevenoaks Road, Ightham
Extent:	From junction with Rectory Lane to the junction of Pilar Box Lane
Dates:	Start: 19th July 2011 End: 19th July 2011
Dates:	Start: 4th October 2011 End: 4th October 2011
Road Name:	A25 Ightham Bypass, Ightham
Extent:	From the junction of Rectory Lane to the junction of Borough Green Road
Dates:	Start: 19th July 2011
End:	19th July 2011
Dates:	Start: 4th October 2011 End: 4th October 2011

Kent Highway Services apologise for any inconvenience caused by these essential works, which are necessary for carriageway maintenance works. Should you require any further information about these works, the contact is Steve Bradley of Ringway Infrastructure Services Ltd on 08458 247 800.

HIGHWAYS - District of Sevenoaks

DEVON ROAD, SOUTH DARENTH - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Devon Road, South Darenth between Cedar Drive and Water Mill.

The Order will become effective on 4th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to last 4 weeks. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Devon Road, Cedar Drive, A225 Main Road, station Road Horton Kirby, Horton Road, Holmesdale Road and Devon Road.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of a new footway across a river culvert.

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

MAIN ROAD, KNOCKHOLT - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council intends to make an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Main Road, Knockholt between Brasted Lane and Stoneings Lane.

The Order will become effective on 18th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 24th April 2011 and last 1 week. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via:
Southbound: Brasted Lane and Stoneings Lane
Northbound: Main Road, Shelleys Lane and Burlings Lane

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate BT works.

RECTORY LANE, HEVER - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Rectory Lane, Hever from its junctions with Uckfield Lane and Pigdown Lane.

The Order will become effective on 4th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 6th April 2011 and last 6 months. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Uckfield Lane and Pigdown Lane.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate installation of replacement water main and lateral services.

STATION APPROACH, SWANLEY - (TEMPORARY PROHIBITION OF TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011 THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Notice is hereby given that owing to the likelihood of danger to the public whilst works are carried out on or near the highway the Kent County Council has made an Order restricting the use by vehicular traffic on Station Approach, Swanley from Goldsel Road for 60m.

The Order will become effective on 4th April 2011, will be in operation and remain valid for a maximum period of 18 months; the works are planned to commence 8th April 2011 and last 3 days; 15th April 2011 and last 3 days; 6th May 2011 and last 2 days and 22nd July 2011 and last 2 days. These restrictions will be effective when the appropriate signage is in place.

The alternative route for the above restriction will be via: Goldsel Road, Azalea Drive and Station Approach.

The purpose of the closure is to facilitate a mobile crane on the highway for Network Rail works.

HIGHWAYS - District of Shepway

VARIOUS ROADS, SHEPWAY (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of a programme of carriageway repairs and resurfacing, Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Shepway, on or after 20 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below.

CINQUE PORTS AVENUE for its entire length
Between 20 April and 28 April 2011
Alternative route via St Leonard's Road.
There will be a suspension of the One-way Traffic Order *whilst the road is closed between the junctions with St Leonard's Road and Wakefield Way,* to allow access, when the relevant signs are covered or removed.

COAST DRIVE / THE PARADE, LYDD-ON-SEA
Between 21 April and 13 May 2011
Alternative route via Battery Road, Dungeness Road, Harden Road, Station Road, B2075 Romney Road, A259 Lydd Road, High Street, B2071 Station Road, Littlestone Road, Marine Parade, Grand Parade and Coast Drive.

CRETE ROAD WEST, FOLKESTONE between the junctions with A260 Canterbury Road and Danton Lane.
Surfacing - 7 & 8 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 15 May 2011
Alternative route via A260 Canterbury Road, Spitfire Way, Aerodrome Road, Paddlesworth Lane and Upper Arpinge.

HOAD ROAD, SWINGFIELD from junction with Forge Hill to junction of(A260) Canterbury Road
Surfacing on 8 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 15 May 2011
Alternative route via Forge Hill, Oak Hill and A260 Canterbury Road

UPPER ARPINGE, PADDLESWORTH – from the junction with Teddars Leas Road
Surfacing on 8 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 15 May 2011
Alternative route via Teddars Leas Road

GREEN LANE, ELHAM for its entire length
Surfacing on 8 & 9 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 16 May 2011
Alternative route via North Elham Hill and Standard Hill Top

NORWOOD LANE, NEWCHURCH from junction with Newchurch Lane to its junction with Chittenden Lane
Surfacing on 10 & 11 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 18 May 2011
Alternative route via Newchurch Lane, Ashford Road, unnamed road from Ashford Road to Turnagate Cottage, Chittenden Lane

NEWCHURCH ROAD, IVYCHURCH between the junctions with Ashford Road and Mill Bank.
Surfacing on 11 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 18 May 2011
Alternative route via Ashford Road, A2070 Ashford Road, Marsh Road, Cock Lane, B2067 Ruckinge Road, B2067 Hamstreet Road and Newchurch Road

CANTERBURY ROAD, ELHAM from junction with Park Lane to 50 metres north east of White Horse Lane
Surfacing - 12 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 19 May 2011
Alternative route via High Street Elham, New Road, Canterbury Road, Broad Street, Station Road, Canterbury Road, Beachborough, A20 Ashford Road, B2068 Stanford By-pass, Stone Street, Street End, Faussett Hill, Nackington Road, Old Dover Road, A2050 New Dover Road, A2 Dover Road, Bourne Park Slip Road, Coldharbour Lane, Bonny Bush Hill, Black Robin Lane, Valley Road, Derringstone Hill and Elham Valley Road.

BOTOLPH'S BRIDGE ROAD, HYTHE between the junctions with A259 Dymchurch Road and Lower Wall Road
Surfacing on 13 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 20 May 2011
Alternative route via A259 Dymchurch Road, Burmarsh Road and Lower Wall Road.

BURMARSH ROAD, DYMCHURCH between the junctions with A259 Dymchurch Road and Lower Wall Road.
Surfacing on 13 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 20 May 2011
Alternative route via A259 Dymchurch Road, Botolph's Bridge Road and Lower Wall Road.

JEFFERSTONE LANE, ST MARY'S BAY from the junction with St Mary's Road to the 30/national speed limit sign
Surfacing on 16 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 23 May 2011
Alternative route via St Mary's Road and A259 Dymchurch Road

ASHFORD ROAD, IVYCHURCH between Five Vents Lane and A2070 Ashford Road
Surfacing on 17 May 2011 then sweeping and lining on 24 May 2011
Alternative route via Ashford Road, A259 Lydd Road, Rhee Wall, A2070 Ashford Road

The works are weather dependant and may be delayed by adverse conditions. Works that are missed will be deferred until later in the programme with the revised dates signposted on site.

HIGHWAYS - District of Swale

CLAXFIELD ROAD, TEYNHAM (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of duct installation works for BT, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Claxfield Road, Teynham, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 2 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The road will be closed outside Claxfield Farm.

The alternative route is via A2 London Road, Lynsted Lane and Claxfield Road.

VARIOUS ROADS, FAVERSHAM (ONE-WAY TRAFFIC) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Because of water mains replacement works, Kent County Council has made an Order to impose a one-way traffic flow on Various Roads, Faversham, on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 14 weeks or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of phases and alternative routes are as shown below.

WILLIAM STREET will become one-way eastbound for its whole length, from 4 April 2011 for up to 14 weeks. The alternative routes are via Park Road and Chapel Street or East Street

Phase 1 – ST MARY'S ROAD will become One-way northbound only, between the junctions with Beaumont Terrace and East Street
From 4 April 2011 for up to 6 weeks
The alternative route for southbound traffic is via East Street and St John's Road

Phase 2 – WILLIAM STREET
From 16 May 2011 for up to 2 weeks
Works in William Street between St Mary's Road and St John's Road

Phase 3 - ST JOHN'S ROAD will become One-way northbound only, between the junctions with William Street and East Street
From 30 May 2011 for up to 6 weeks
The alternative route for southbound traffic is via East Street, St Mary's Road and William Street

The dates of the second and third phases are approximate guidelines, and may vary subject to weather and ground conditions. The exact dates will be notified to local residents and signposted on site. The Order is in force when the appropriate signs are in place.

VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Swale, as part of a programme of Highway Micro-surfacing.

The Order takes effect on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. These dates include some weekend working apart from Bank Holiday weekends.

BRADLEY DRIVE / PARK DRIVE, SITTINGBOURNE
From 4 April 2011 until 7 April 2011
Access to be maintained via alternative junction

MURSTON ROAD/CHURCH ROAD, SITTINGBOURNE
(through to 10 metres north of Tonge Road)
From 5 April 2011 until 9 April 2011
Alternative route via A2 Canterbury Road, Hempstead Lane, Lower Road, Lomas Road and Tonge Road
There will be a suspension of the One-way Orders in respect of the following roads during this period, to allow access to residents, when the relevant signs are covered or removed
THOMAS ROAD between Murston Road and Cowper Road
GOODNESTONE ROAD for its entire length
SHORTLANDS ROAD between Murston Road and Cowper Road and between Harold Road and Goodnestone Road

COOMBE DRIVE, SITTINGBOURNE
From 6 April 2011 until 8 April 2011
Access will be maintained via alternative junction

OAK LANE, MINSTER
From 26 May 2011 until 31 May 2011
No alternative route as No Through Road - access will be maintained whenever it is safe to do so

RASPBERRY HILL LANE, IWADE – between Old Ferry Road and Basser Hill
From 27 May 2011 until 7 June 2011
Alternative route via Basser Hill, School Lane, The Street and Old Ferry Road

The works are weather dependant and may be delayed by adverse conditions. Works that are missed will be deferred until later in the programme with the revised dates signposted on site.

VARIOUS ROADS, SWALE (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council intends to make an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Swale, as part of a programme of highway Surfacing Dressing.

The Order takes effect on or after 20 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. Each road will be closed twice, initially 1 day for Surfacing and then 1 day for sweeping and lining.

WORMDALE HILL/ROAD, NEWINGTON – between Maidstone Road and Bull Lane
Surfacing on 20 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 27 April 2011
Alternative routes
Eastbound via Maidstone Road, Chestnut Street, A2 Keycol Hill, Boyces Hill, High Street and Bull Lane
Westbound via Bull Lane, Church Lane, Church Hill, A249 Sittingbourne Road and Maidstone Road

BULL LANE, NEWINGTON – between Wormdale Road and Playstool Road
Surfacing on 20 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 27 April 2011
Alternative route via Playstool Road, A2 London Road, Hartlip Hill, Lower Hartlip Road, Old House Lane and Bull Lane.

MILL LANE, HARTLIP – between A2 Hartlip Hill and The Street
Surfacing on 20 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 27 April 2011
A2 Hartlip Hill, Lower Hartlip Road, Hollow Lane and The Street

NEWHOUSE LANE, SHELDWICH – between A251 Ashford Road and Winding Hill
Surfacing on 26 April 2011 then sweeping & lining on 3 May 2011
Alternative route via A251 Ashford Road, Lees Court Road, Fisher Street Road, Reynolds Grove Road, Shepherds Hill, Hogbens Hill, Winding Hill, Featherbed Lane, Selling Road and Owens Court Road

WARDEN ROAD, EASTCHURCH – between Plough Road and High Street
Surfacing on 8 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 15 May 2011
Alternative route via High Street, Lower Road, Eastchurch Road, Chequers Road and Plough Road

LOWER ROAD, EASTCHURCH – from Eastchurch Roundabout to Shardens Farm
Surfacing on 8 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 15 May 2011

Alternative route via Queenborough Road, A250 Halfway Road, B2008 Minster Road, Back Lane, Chapel St, Chequers Road and Eastchurch Road

SCOCLES ROAD, MINSTER – between Back Lane and Lower Road
Surfacing on 9 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 16 May 2011
Alternative route via Back Lane, B2008 Minster Road, Barton Hill Drive and Lower Road

MUNNS LANE, HARTLIP – between Lower Hartlip Road and The Street
Surfacing on 9 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 16 May 2011
Alternative route via Lower Hartlip Road, Hollow Lane and The Street

WINDING HILL, SELLING – between Newhouse Lane and Featherbed Lane
Surfacing on 9 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 16 May 2011
Alternative route via Featherbed Lane, Selling Road and Owens Court Road

HEMPSTED LANE, TONGE – between A2 London Road and Scraps Hill
Surfacing on 9 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 16 May 2011
Alternative route via A2, Frognal Lane and Lower Road

SELLING ROAD, SELLING – between Vicarage Lane and Selling Road
Surfacing on 10 May 2011 then sweeping & lining on 17 May 2011
Alternative route via Vicarage Lane and Selling Road

HIGHWAYS - District of Thanet

A299 CANTERBURY ROAD WEST, MANSTON (PROHIBITION OF OVERTAKING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

For the safety of the public during construction of the new East Kent Access Road, Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting overtaking on the new southernmost carriageway of the A299 Canterbury Road West, Manston, between the new Cliffsend Roundabout and the Minster Roundabout.

This Order takes effect on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 18 months or until the works have been completed, as and when the relevant signs are displayed on site.

VARIOUS ROADS, THANET (PROHIBITION OF DRIVING) TEMPORARY ORDER 2011

THE ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 AS AMENDED BY THE ROAD TRAFFIC (TEMPORARY RESTRICTIONS) ACT 1991

Kent County Council has made an Order prohibiting through traffic on Various Roads, Thanet, as part of a programme of highway resurfacing.

The Order takes effect on or after 4 April 2011 for up to 3 months or until the works have been completed.

The roads affected, dates of closure and alternative routes are as shown below. These dates include some weekend working.

APPROACH ROAD / NORTHDOWN PARK ROAD, MARGATE
From 4 April 2011 until 7 April 2011
Alternative routes
EAST BOUND – Dane Road, Upper Dane Road, Millmead Road and Laleham Road
WEST BOUND – Northumberland Avenue, Northdown Road and Wilderness Hill

LOWER NORTHDOWN AVENUE / WYNDHAM AVENUE, MARGATE
From 4 April 2011 until 7 April 2011
Alternative route via Northdown Park Road, Northumberland Avenue and Northdown Road

NORTHDOWN WAY, MARGATE
From 4 April 2011 until 9 April 2011
Alternative route via Northdown Park Road, Millmead Avenue, Millmead Road and Northdown Way

ST ANTHONY'S WAY, MARGATE
From 4 April 2011 until 9 April 2011
Alternative route via Northdown Park Road, Millmead Avenue, Millmead Road and Tenterden Way

TENTERDEN WAY, MARGATE
From 4 April 2011 until 9 April 2011
Alternative route via Millmead Road, Northdown Way and St Anthony's Way

MARSHALL CRESCENT, BROADSTAIRS
From 6 April 2011 until 12 April 2011
Access will be maintained from the other junction with Wilkes Road

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

HIGHWAYS

(WEST) DUMPTON LANE, RAMSGATE
From 9 April 2011 until 13 April 2011
Alternative route via Ramsgate Road, Hereson Road, Cecilia Road and Dumpton Lane

BUTTS ESTATE, MINSTER – DOMNEVA ROAD, ST MARY'S ROAD, THORNE ROAD, MOLINEUX ROAD & TAYLOR ROAD
From 11 April 2011 until 15 April 2011
There are no alternative routes for these roads. Every effort will be made to maintain access whenever it is safe to do so

The works are weather dependant and may be delayed by adverse conditions. Works that are missed will be deferred until later in the programme with the revised dates signposted on site.

HIGHWAYS - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (EAST MALLING PARKING PLAN – IN THE BOROUGH OF TONBRIDGE & MALLING) (WAITING RESTRICTION AND ON-STREET PARKING PLACES) (AMENDMENT NO. 4) ORDER, 2011

Notice is hereby given that the KENT COUNTY COUNCIL acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2 & 4 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended, and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the said Act, made the above Order on 31st March, 2011

The effect of the Order will be to introduce The East Malling Parking Plan to improve access, safety and balance parking availability, as follows:

1. A Residents Preferential Parking scheme is proposed for the following roads: Chapel Street, Church Walk, High Street, eastern end of Mill Street and the Access Road to The Village Field Car Park, With parking restricted to marked, designated on-street parking bays where road width, junctions and access points allow, with a limit of 4 hours (no return 2 hours) between 8am – 6pm, Monday to Friday. Qualifying permit holders to be exempt from these restrictions.
2. It is proposed to install restrictions in the lay-by in Twisden Road to assist with customer parking with parking limited to 1 hour (no return 1 hour) between 8am and 6pm, Monday to Saturday.
3. Advisory roadside parking areas without waiting restrictions are proposed at the southern end of Middle Mill Road and the western end of Mill Street, where road width, junctions and access points allow to reduce obstruction and improve access for through traffic and public transport services.
4. An additional Disabled Persons Parking Bay is proposed in Church Walk and in the Access Road to The Village Field Car Park.
5. It is proposed to reduce the operating times of existing day-time waiting restrictions (single yellow lines) in The Rocks Road to prohibit parking between 10am to 10.30am Monday to Friday and extend this restriction towards the junction of Gilletts Lane. The same day-time restrictions are proposed for the full length of Rocks Close. These restrictions are proposed as a minimum measure to prevent long-term parking near East Malling Train Station.
6. It is proposed to introduce no waiting "At Any Time" (double yellow lines) in specific locations where it is necessary to reinforce the rules of the Highway Code and prevent parking in unsuitable places - The Access Road to The Village Field Car Park, Beech Road, Carnation Close, Carnation Crescent, Chapman Way, Chapel Street, Columbine Road, Cottenham Close, Elm Crescent, High Street, Jasmine Road, Larkspur Road, Lavender Road, Lilac Green, Lime Crescent, Mill Street, Middle Mill Road, New Road, Rocks Road, Stickens Lane, The Grange, The Rocks Road, Twisden Road and Wateringbury Road.
7. It is proposed to amend the layout of the 'School Keep Clear' restrictions in Chapman Way to protect the revised vehicular and pedestrian access arrangements to St James the Great Primary School and The Children's Centre. This is to support the aims of the School Travel Plan to improve safety for vulnerable child pedestrians. No change is proposed to the operating times of the existing restrictions

The Order sets the cost of a residents parking permit at £30 per annum (£120 for business permits) which includes a card of 10 visitors vouchers. Additional visitors' vouchers are set at the cost of £10 for a card of 10 visitors vouchers.
The Order will contain the usual exemptions to enable a vehicle to wait with police permission or for passengers to board or alight, for the loading and unloading of goods, for enabling work to be carried out in or adjacent to the road, for disabled persons and for emergency vehicles.

A copy of the Order together with a map, a copy of the Order to be amended by the Order, and a copy of the Councils reasons for making the Order, may be inspected during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Council Offices, Kings Hill, Tonbridge Castle Gateway Centre, Kent County Council, Sessions House, County Hall Maidstone and East Malling and Larkfield Parish Council Offices, Church Farm, New Hythe Lane, Larkfield.

Anyone wishing to question the validity of the Order or of any of its provisions on the grounds that they are not within the powers conferred by the Act of 1984 as amended, or that any requirement of the Act of 1984 or any instrument made under them has not been complied with may, within six weeks from the date of the Order, make application for that purpose to the High Court. The Order will come into effect on 4th April, 2011.

Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council Parking Action Plan

The East Malling Parking Plan is a community built project developed through consultation with local people

HIGHWAYS - District of Tunbridge Wells

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (CLEVELAND, ROYAL TUNBRIDGE WELLS) (PROHIBITION OF WAITING) ORDER 2011

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (hereinafter referred to as "the Council") acting as the local traffic authority and in exercise of its powers under Sections 1, 2, 4 and 124 of and Part IV of Schedule 9 to the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 (hereinafter referred to as the "Act of 1984") and as amended by the Traffic Management Act 2004 Part 6 and of all other enabling powers and after consultation with the Chief Officer of Police in accordance with Part III of Schedule 9 to the Act of 1984, hereby makes the following Order.

The effect of the Order will be to introduce no waiting at any time (double yellow lines) on various lengths of Cleveland, Tunbridge Wells.

Full details are contained in the draft Order which, together with the relevant plans, any Orders amended by the proposals and a statement of the Council's reasons for proposing to make the Order may be examined on Mondays to Fridays at the Council Offices, Town Hall, Civic Way, Royal Tunbridge Wells from 4 April 2011.

If you wish to offer support for or object to the proposed order you should send the grounds in writing to, Network Performance Team, 1st Floor Invicta House, Invicta House, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX by noon on Monday 25 April 2011.

Katherine Kerswell
Group Managing Director
Invicta House, County Hall
Maidstone
Kent, ME14 1XQ **Dated 3rd April 2011**

For further information, please contact Kent Highway Services, on 08458 247 800 (local rate) or visit www.kent.gov.uk/highways

Kent County Council

PUBLIC RIGHTS OF WAY

PROW - City of Canterbury

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE FORMER EXCLUDED AREA OF WHITSTABLE

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH CWX41 AT WHITSTABLE)

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

The above Order was made on 18th March 2011 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Footpath (CWX41) which commences on Green Lane and runs in a northerly direction for 55 metres before turning in a north- easterly direction and continuing for 44 metres to its connection with Harwich Street (Between the points A and B on the Order Plan). The path has a width of 0.9 metres at its entrance from Green Lane and widens to 1.2 metres for the first 55 metres, the path widens to 1.4 metres for the remaining 44 metres. The route then narrows at its connection with Harwich Street to 0.9 metres due to a lamppost on the route.

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Canterbury City Council, Military Road, Canterbury, Kent, CT1 1YW or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Matthew Garvey at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 16 May 2011. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

PROW - Borough of Maidstone

NOTICE OF PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER

HIGHWAYS ACT 1980

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (PUBLIC FOOTPATH KH49, BREDHURST)

PUBLIC PATH DIVERSION AND DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

The above Order, made under Section 119 of the Highways Act 1980 will divert the entire width of that length of public footpath numbered KH49 which commences on The Street between the properties Cabana and Cherry Tree at NGR TQ 7973 6239 (Point A on the Order plan) and runs eastwards for 388 metres to its connection with public bridleway KH49A and Kemsley Street Road at NGR TQ 8010 6231 (point B on the Order plan), to a new length of Public Footpath KH49 with a width of 3.5 metres between fencing, which commences at the aforementioned point B and runs north-westwards for 184 metres to its connection to Kemsley Street Road at NGR TQ 7996 6242 (point C on the Order plan).

All directions general, all distances approximate.

A copy of the Order and the Map have been placed and may be seen free of charge at the offices of Maidstone Borough Council, Maidstone House, King Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME16 8HG or at the Environment & Waste Division at Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX, during office hours. Copies of the Order and Map may be purchased there.

Any representations about or objections to the Order may be sent in writing to Mrs Maria McLauchlan at Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1XX (Tel: 01622 696871) before 6th May 2011. Please state the grounds on which they are made.

If no representations or objections are duly made, or if any so made are withdrawn, Kent County Council may confirm the Order as an unopposed Order. If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment for confirmation any representations and objections which have not been withdrawn will be sent with the Order.

PROW - Borough of Tonbridge & Malling

NOTICE OF MODIFICATION ORDER

WILDLIFE AND COUNTRYSIDE ACT 1981

DEFINITIVE MAP AND STATEMENT FOR THE COUNTY OF KENT

THE KENT COUNTY COUNCIL (BRIDLEWAY MT416 AT SHIPBOURNE)

DEFINITIVE MAP MODIFICATION ORDER 2011

The above Order was made on 18th March 2011 under section 53 of the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981. If confirmed, it will modify the Definitive Map and Statement for the area by adding a Bridleway (MT416) with a width of 3 metres which commences at the south-eastern corner of Avenue Cottage on public bridleway MT50 at NGR TQ 5895 5092 (Point A), running in a south south- westerly direction for 19 metres to rejoin public bridleway MT50 at NGR 5894 5090 (Point B). (Between Point A and B on the Order Plan).

All distances are approximate, all directions are general.

A copy of the Order and Map may be seen free of charge during normal office hours at the offices of Tonbridge and Malling Borough Council, Gibson Building, Gibson Drive, Kings Hill, West Malling, Kent, ME19 4LZ or at the Kent County Council, Countryside Access Service, Invicta House, County Hall, Maidstone, Kent ME14 1XX. Copies of the Order and Map may also be purchased there.

Any representation about or objection to the Order must be sent or delivered in writing to Matthew Garvey at the Kent County Council (address as below) no later than 16 May 2011. Please state the grounds on which it is made.

If no such representations or objections are duly made to the Order (or to any part of it), or if any so made are withdrawn, the Kent County Council, instead of submitting the Order to the Secretary of State (or part of it if the Authority has by Notice to the Secretary of State so elected under paragraph 5 of schedule 15 to the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981) may itself confirm the Order (or that part of the Order). If the Order is sent to the Secretary of State for the Environment (in whole or in part), any representations or objections which have been duly made and not been withdrawn will be sent with it.

Countryside Access Service
Kent County Council
Invicta House
County Hall
Maidstone
Kent ME14 1XX **Date: 03 April 2011**

The above notice(s) may be provided in other formats

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New Mercedes C-Class is a breath of fresh air

First **Drive**

by **IAIN DOOLEY**

Mercedes Benz **C-Class**

TWO BIG numbers you need to be aware of when considering Mercedes-Benz's revised C-Class: 2,000 changes have been made to the car and, since it was launched in 2007, more than one million have been sold.

Through the decades the C-Class has charted a steady course straddling both sporty and luxury sides of the compact premium experience and always aiming to offer elements of its larger models at a more affordable price point. Now, with ever-increasing focus on emissions, consumption and refinement, Mercedes has thoroughly revamped its core model – prices start at £25,515.

The car's nose and tail have been tweaked slightly – radiator, lights, that sort of thing – and there's still the visual difference between 'classic' SE/Elegance and Sport models, with the latter boasting a subtle AMG branded bodykit, AMG wheels and a lower ride height.

Inside there's a new dashboard design, the car's colour display screen is now fixed in the upper level of the fascia and the general impression is a welcome shift to a simpler layout inspired in part by the CLS.

Some things don't change, though. The cabin ambience is as refined as ever, and the wide choice of trim, seat and instrument colour options ensure both young and old buyers are catered for.

Mercedes hopes everyone will benefit from reduced running costs, in particular company car drivers opting for four-cylinder diesel variants. Bold claims are made that every new engine is both more powerful and more efficient than its predecessor.

While all cars come with a six-speed manual gearbox as standard, there's now the option of an improved seven-speed auto across the range. Another feature across the range is engine stop-start technology to further boost the car's eco credentials.

The end result is a more frugal ownership experience. Taking the C220 CDI (from £30,975) for example: in manual form the car posts an impressive 117g/km CO2 rating and 64.2mpg on the combined cycle.

The best news of all is the complete lack of compromise behind the wheel. Manual transmission Mercedes cars haven't been that great in the past, but things have improved in recent years. The gearbox in the C220 CDI, like other variants, delivers a slick, accurate performance. Engine refinement is also first rate, while performance is more than you could ask for. A willing unit, the 2.1-litre, four-cylinder is quiet and responsive in equal measure.

Ride comfort is also very good, with a sensible balance of comfort and agility. Pitch and roll is minimal, while the Sport variant's tuned suspension and bigger wheels don't harm but rather enhance the experience for enthusiastic drivers. In the petrol-driven car the experience is broadly similar, only the engine is that bit quieter.

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Along with the improved driving experience, the C-Class comes with a wider choice of standard and optional equipment.

There's a heavy bias towards safety kit, with a lot of 'big car' stuff from the E, CLS and S-Class having trickled down to the C-Class. From lane departure and blind spot warning systems to active dipping headlights and intelligent cruise control, the car isn't short of helpful toys.

The same is true on the comfort front, with the optional sat-nav supported by standard fit climate and cruise control, a multi-function steering wheel and the usual electric mirrors and windows.

UK buyers can choose from SE, Elegance and Sport, with the latter adding a subtle AMG bodykit and branded wheels, lower ride height, speed sensitive steering, sports front seats, a three-spoke steering wheel and gearchange paddles for auto gearbox variants.

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2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles £17,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £16,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £16,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 950 miles £15,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £14,995
2010(60) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOUNTAIN GREY, 1610 miles £13,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, STAR SILVER, 1900 miles £13,995
2010(60) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIMBUS GREY, 999 miles £12,995
2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, HOT MAGENTA, 2000 miles £12,995
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles £11,995
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, RED, 600 miles £11,995
2010(60) PEUGEOT 308 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £10,995
2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles £9,995
2010(10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles £9,995
2010(10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles £9,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,495
2010(10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles £9,495
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2010(10) PEUGEOT 207 S 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles £9,495
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2010(60) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles £7,995
2010(60) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH, RED, 850 miles £7,995

CONVERTIBLES CABRIOLETS COUPES

2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles £23,995
2009(59) BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles £19,995
2008(08) BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £18,995
2009(58) NISSAN MICRA 25 CONVERTIBLE CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, EMOTION RED, 11000 miles £9,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £7,995

NEW FIESTA

2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 5DR HATCH AUTO, HOT MAGENTA, 2000 miles £12,995
2010(60) FORD FIESTA TITANIUM 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £11,995
2009(58) FORD FIESTA STYLE PLUS 3DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 3000 miles £8,995
2007(57) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £6,995

FOCUS HATCH & SALOON

2009(09) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £10,995
2008(08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 4000 miles £8,995
2008(58) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles £8,495
2008(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 7000 miles £7,995
2008(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOONDUST SILVER, 14000 miles £6,995
2005(55) FORD FOCUS GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 27000 miles £6,495

FOCUS ESTATES

2008(08) FORD FOCUS ZETEC ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1250 miles £9,495
2007(57) FORD FOCUS STYLE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles £6,495

RENAULT SCENIC

2009(59) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £16,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £8,995
2007(07) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, GREY, 26000 miles £7,995
2007(07) RENAULT SCENIC PRIVILEGE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, RED, 13000 miles £7,995
2008(57) RENAULT SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 5STR MPV AUTO, BLUE, 19000 miles £6,995

RENAULT

2010(57) RENAULT SCENIC EXPRESSION VVT MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 12000 miles £11,995
2010(60) RENAULT MODUS GRAND DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 250 miles £9,995
2010(10) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles £9,995
2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 136 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, GOLD, 12000 miles £8,995
2010(10) RENAULT GRAND MODUS DYNAMIQUE VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, OTTOMON BLUE, 1000 miles £9,995
2006(56) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2006(06) RENAULT MEGANE DYNAMIQUE VVT 111 CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £7,995
2008(08) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE VVT 136 7STR MPV AUTO, GREEN, 15000 miles £7,995
2008(58) RENAULT KANGOO AUTHENTIQUE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 300 miles £7,995
2008(58) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 1500 miles £7,495
2006(56) RENAULT LAGUNA EXPRESSION SPORT TOURER 16V ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £6,995
2007(57) RENAULT MEGANE PRIVILEGE VVT 111 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £6,995
2008(08) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles £6,995
2008(57) RENAULT MODUS DYNAMIQUE S VVT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £6,495
2005(05) RENAULT KANGOO EXPRESSION 16V MPV AUTO, GREEN, 39000 miles £3,995

CHEVROLET

2008(08) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £6,995
2009(09) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £6,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET AVEO LT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles £6,995
2009(58) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £6,995
2006(56) CHEVROLET LACETTI SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £4,995
2007(07) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £4,495

HYUNDAI

2008(58) HYUNDAI GETZ GSI 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1000 miles £6,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI MPV AUTO, WINE RED, 7000 miles £6,495
2007(57) HYUNDAI ACCENT ATLANTIC LIMITED EDITION 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 6000 miles £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,995
2006(56) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 9000 miles £5,995
2007(57) HYUNDAI MATRIX GSI SALOON AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £5,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI AMICA CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 24000 miles £5,495
2005(54) HYUNDAI GETZ CDX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £4,695

KIA

2009(09) KIA CEED GS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £8,995
2009(59) KIA PICANTO STRIKE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £6,995

DAIHATSU

2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 13000 miles £6,995
2008(08) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £6,995
2007(57) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £6,495
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £5,995
2007(07) DAIHATSU SIRION 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 20000 miles £5,995

BMW

2009(59) BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, BRONZE, 4000 miles £19,995
2008(08) BMW 3 SERIES 320I SE COUPE AUTO, GREY, 10000 miles £18,995
2008(57) BMW 3 SERIES 318I M SPORT TOURING ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £16,995

FIAT

2010(10) FIAT PUNTO EVO DYNAMIC DUALOGIC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 500 miles £9,495

FUSION

2010(10) FORD FUSION ZETEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 1800 miles £9,995
2008(08) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 13000 miles £7,995
2009(09) FORD FUSION FUSION + 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 16000 miles £7,495

CITROEN

2000(X) CITROEN SAXO SX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 54000 miles £2,495

CORSA

2010(10) VAUXHALL CORSA EXCLUSIV AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 6000 miles £9,495
2009(59) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 750 miles £9,495
2009(09) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 4000 miles £8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA CLUB AC 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 3DR HATCH AUTO, GOLD, 5000 miles £7,495
2008(57) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles £6,995
2005(54) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 9000 miles £5,495

MAZDA

2008(08) MAZDA 5 5 TS2 MPV AUTO, GOLD, 15000 miles £9,995
2008(58) MAZDA 3 3 TAKARA 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 5000 miles £9,995
2008(08) MAZDA 3 3 TS2 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £8,995
2006(56) MAZDA 6 6 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 21000 miles £7,995
2007(57) MAZDA 3 3 TS 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 8000 miles £7,995
2007(57) MAZDA 2 2 CAPELLA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £6,495
2007(56) MAZDA 2 2 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,995

SUZUKI

2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 450 miles £9,495
2009(59) SUZUKI SWIFT GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995
2007(57) SUZUKI SX4 GLX 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 21000 miles £7,495
2007(57) SUZUKI IGNIS GL VVT-S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £5,995

TOYOTA

2007(57) TOYOTA PRIUS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £12,995
2010(10) TOYOTA IQ VVT-I IQ 3DR HATCH AUTO, PURPLE, 6000 miles £9,495
2007(57) TOYOTA AURIS T SPIRIT VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £8,995
2007(07) TOYOTA AURIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 17000 miles £7,995
2008(08) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles £7,995
2005(54) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T SPIRIT VVT-I MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £7,495
2005(05) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £6,995
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 3DR HATCH AUTO, CRYSTAL SILVER, 5000 miles £6,995
2007(07) TOYOTA YARIS T3 VVT-I MM 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 21000 miles £6,995
2005(55) TOYOTA YARIS VERSO T3 VVT-I MPV AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 25000 miles £6,495
2007(56) TOYOTA YARIS ZINC MMT 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 26000 miles £5,995
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,495

NISSAN

2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 10000 miles £19,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £17,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 7000 miles £15,995
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £15,495
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles £14,995
2007(57) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles £12,995
2010(60) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles £11,995
2009(09) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £9,995
2009(58) NISSAN MICRA 25 CONVERTIBLE CC CONVERTIBLE AUTO, EMOTION RED, 11000 miles £9,995
2009(59) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £8,495
2010(60) NISSAN PIXO N-TEC 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 999 miles £7,995
2008(58) NISSAN MICRA ACTIVE LUXURY 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 11000 miles £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, CAYMAN BLUE, 10000 miles £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE TEKNA MPV AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 16000 miles £7,995
2008(08) NISSAN NOTE ACENTA MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles £6,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA PLUS 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 12000 miles £6,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA SPIRITA 3DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 18000 miles £6,995
2007(57) NISSAN MICRA ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 15000 miles £6,995
2006(56) NISSAN NOTE SE MPV AUTO, ORANGE, 21000 miles £5,995
2005(54) NISSAN ALMERA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, CHAMPAGNE, 9000 miles £4,995
2005(05) NISSAN ALMERA S 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 11000 miles £4,995
2003(52) NISSAN ALMERA SVE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 37000 miles £3,695
2002(02) NISSAN MICRA S 3DR HATCH AUTO, WHITE, 10000 miles £2,995

ASTRA HATCHBACKS

2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £9,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 15000 miles £9,995
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 3DR HATCH AUTO, TECHNICAL GREY, 5000 miles £9,495
2010(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £9,495
2009(59) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 2000 miles £8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, SILVER LIGHTNING, 14000 miles £8,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £8,495
2009(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 8000 miles £8,495
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ULTRA BLUE, 11000 miles £7,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 20000 miles £6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 19000 miles £6,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BEIGEBUFF, 14000 miles £6,495
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 17000 miles £5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 5DR HATCH AUTO, PANNACOTTA , 17000 miles £5,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, TURQUOISE, 16000 miles £5,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 16000 miles £5,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V E4 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 3000 miles £5,995

NEW MODEL ASTRA

2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA ELITE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 950 miles £15,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 2000 miles £14,995
2011(60) VAUXHALL ASTRA SE ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 300 miles £14,995
2010(10) VAUXHALL ASTRA SRI 5DR HATCH AUTO, STAR SILVER, 1900 miles £13,995

ASTRA ESTATES

2009(09) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £7,995
2008(58) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £7,995
2008(08) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 140 ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £6,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 140 ESTATE AUTO, BLUE, 14000 miles £6,995
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA DESIGN 16V ESTATE AUTO, PANACOTTA, 16000 miles £6,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL ASTRA LIFE AC 16V ESTATE AUTO, BLACK, 11000 miles £5,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, ICE GREEN, 9000 miles £12,995
2010(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA CLUB 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 3000 miles £9,495
2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, STEEL BLUE, 11000 miles £8,995
2009(59) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, GOLD, 3000 miles £8,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL AGILA DESIGN 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 5000 miles £8,995

ZAFIRA MERIVA & AGILA

2008(08) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 12000 miles £8,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles £7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, TURQUOISE, 13000 miles £7,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, PANNACOTTA, 11000 miles £7,995
2008(57) VAUXHALL MERIVA LIFE 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £6,995
2008(58) CHEVROLET MATIZ SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREEN, 7000 miles £5,995

PEUGEOT

2010(60) PEUGEOT 308 S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 1000 miles £10,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 307 S COUPE CABRIOLET COUPE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £9,995
2010(10) PEUGEOT 207 S 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles £9,495
2008(08) PEUGEOT 307 SW SE ESTATE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 7000 miles £8,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 207 SPORT 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £7,995
2010(60) PEUGEOT 107 URBAN 5DR HATCH, RED, 850 miles £7,995
2007(57) PEUGEOT 206 LOOK 3DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 2000 miles £6,995

MITSUBISHI

2007(57) MITSUBISHI LANCER ELEGANCE ESTATE AUTO, GREY, 19000 miles £6,995

HONDA

2008(57) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 10000 miles £17,995
2008(57) HONDA CR-V ES AUTO 5DR AUTO, SPARKLING GREY, 17000 miles £17,995
2007(07) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC ES 5DR HATCH AUTO 4x4, GREY, 24000 miles £16,995
2006(06) HONDA CR-V I-VTEC SE ESTATE AUTO 4x4, BLACK, 26000 miles £11,995
2009(09) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 3000 miles £10,995
2008(58) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 9000 miles £10,495
2007(07) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, RED, 8000 miles £8,995
2004(54) HONDA JAZZ DSI SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 18000 miles £6,495

MERCEDES

2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ CLK CLK200 KOMPRESSOR AVANTGARDE CONVERTIBLE AUTO, BLACK, 20000 miles £23,995
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ C CLASS C180K AVANTGARDE SE SALOON AUTO, CUBANITE SILVER, 23000 miles £13,995
2008(58) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A170 AVANTGARDE SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 16000 miles £13,995
2010(60) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, MOUNTAIN GREY, 1610 miles £13,995
2009(59) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £13,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 13000 miles £12,995
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 AVANTGARDE SE 3DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 11000 miles £9,995
2007(57) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 6000 miles £9,995
2007(56) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A150 CLASSIC SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles £8,995
2002(02) MERCEDES-BENZ SLK SLK230 KOMPRESSOR CONVERTIBLE AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 38000 miles £7,995

VOLKSWAGEN

2010(60) VOLKSWAGEN POLO SE DSG 5DR HATCH AUTO, NIMBUS GREY, 999 miles £12,995
2008(57) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF MATCH FSI 115 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £11,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 17000 miles £9,995
2006(06) VOLKSWAGEN GOLF SE 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £9,995
2008(58) VOLKSWAGEN POLO MATCH 3DR AUTO, BLACK, 12000 miles £8,995
2007(57) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S (80BHP) 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 18000 miles £7,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 13000 miles £7,995
2007(07) VOLKSWAGEN POLO S 3DR HATCH AUTO, REFLEX SILVER, 16000 miles £7,495

DIESEL AUTOMATICS

2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 4WD 5DR TD HATCH AUTO 4x4, CAFFE LATTE, 11000 miles £19,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA ELITE CDTI TURBO MPV AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 3000 miles £16,995
2010(60) VAUXHALL MERIVA SE CDTI TD MPV AUTO, GREY, 5000 miles £16,995
2009(59) RENAULT GRAND SCENIC DYNAMIQUE DCI FAP TURBO MPV AUTO, BLUE, 6000 miles £16,995
2009(59) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 4000 miles £13,995
2009(09) MERCEDES-BENZ A CLASS A160 CDI CLASSIC SE 5DR TD HATCH AUTO, STEPPE BROWN, 13000 miles £12,995
2009(09) VAUXHALL ZAFIRA EXCLUSIV CDTI TD MPV AUTO, ICE GREEN, 9000 miles £12,995

MORRIS'S MANUAL CARS

2006(06) JAGUAR X-TYPE S D TD SALOON, RED, 72000 miles £7,995
2007(57) VAUXHALL MERIVA ENERGY CDTI TD MPV, BLACK, 24000 miles £6,995
2008(08) HYUNDAI MATRIX CLASSIC MPV, BLACK, 8000 miles £5,995
2005(55) TOYOTA COROLLA T3 COLOUR COLLECTION VVT-I 5DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 33000 miles £5,995
2006(06) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH, AMETHYST, 35000 miles £5,495
2006(56) VAUXHALL CORSA DESIGN 16V TWINPORT 3DR HATCH, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 2000 miles £5,495
2004(04) TOYOTA YARIS T SPIRIT VVT-I 5DR HATCH, BLACK, 25000 miles £5,495
2007(07) KIA PICANTO LS 5DR HATCH, BLUE, 17000 miles £4,995
2008(08) RENAULT TWINGO DYNAMIQUE 3DR HATCH, ORANGE, 35000 miles £4,995
2007(07) FIAT PANDA DYNAMIC 5DR HATCH, GREY, 8000 miles £4,995
2003(03) PEUGEOT 206 CC SILVER COUPE, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 27000 miles £4,695
2005(05) VAUXHALL AGILA ENJOY 16V TWINPORT MPV, GOLD, 20000 miles £3,995
2006(06) FORD KA DESIGN 3DR HATCH, BLACK, 39000 miles £3,695
2004(04) CITROEN C3 L 5DR HATCH, WHITE, 35000 miles £3,495

SKODA

2008(58) SKODA ROOMSTER 2 16V MPV AUTO, BLUE, 8000 miles £8,995

QASHQAI

2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 1000 miles £20,995
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 4WD 5DR TD HATCH AUTO 4x4, CAFFE LATTE, 11000 miles £19,995
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLADE SILVER, 10000 miles £19,995
2010(59) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, GREY, 12000 miles £19,495
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 8000 miles £17,995
2010(10) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 4000 miles £17,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 17000 miles £15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 9000 miles £15,995
2009(09) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, FIRED IRON, 7000 miles £15,995
2008(08) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 4WD 5DR HATCH 4x4, ORANGE, 17000 miles £15,995
2008(08) NISSAN QASHQAI TEKNA 5DR HATCH AUTO, CAFFE LATTE, 10000 miles £15,995
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLUE, 2000 miles £15,495
2008(58) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, ALUMINIUM SILVER, 14000 miles £14,995
2007(57) NISSAN QASHQAI ACENTA 5DR HATCH AUTO, BLACK, 21000 miles £12,995

FIESTA

2008(08) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, MAUVE, 5000 miles £7,995
2008(08) FORD FIESTA GHIA 16V 5DR HATCH AUTO, STRATOS SILVER, 11000 miles £7,995

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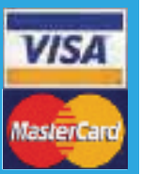

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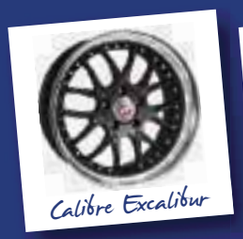
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FIRST GEAR

Saab goes even further upmarket with new 9-3

SAAB has revamped its mainstay compact executive 9-3 model, with luxury as the hallmark.

Standard kit includes alloys, leather-trimmed interior, heated front seats, park assist, Bluetooth phone integration, automatic dimming mirrors inside and outside the vehicle, electric folding mirrors and automatic rain sensor wipers as standard.

The 9-3 also has a racier new look with new front bumpers, headlamps and grille and all saloon variants receive a boot-mounted aerodynamic spoiler.

Under the bonnet, two new 2.0-litre petrol turbo engines produce 163bhp and 220bhp and include direct injection. Both units are available with a six-speed manual and automatic transmission.

In terms of CO2 per unit of horsepower, the new manual 220bhp 2.0-litre petrol engine in the 9-3 Aero saloon and SportWagon (estate) is the most powerful sub 160g/km unit on sale in the UK.

The 9-3 1.9-litre manual twin turbo diesel line-up also offers class-leading CO2 emissions of 119g. New 9-3 prices start at £21,495.

Peugeot supermini gets Euro reliability crown

WARRANTY Direct has revealed that the most reliable car made by a European car company is the Peugeot 207 – model line-up pictured.

The direct sale consumer warranty firm analysed more than 20,000 live policies on three- to seven-year-old cars made by European manufacturers and compared claims for repairs.

This survey showed that the enormous popularity of Peugeot's top-selling supermini is down to more than good looks, economy, practicality and a fun-to-drive nature. Owners of the French model suffered a repair rate of just six per cent in an average year – the next best contender, but some distance behind, was the Fiat Panda at 14 per cent.

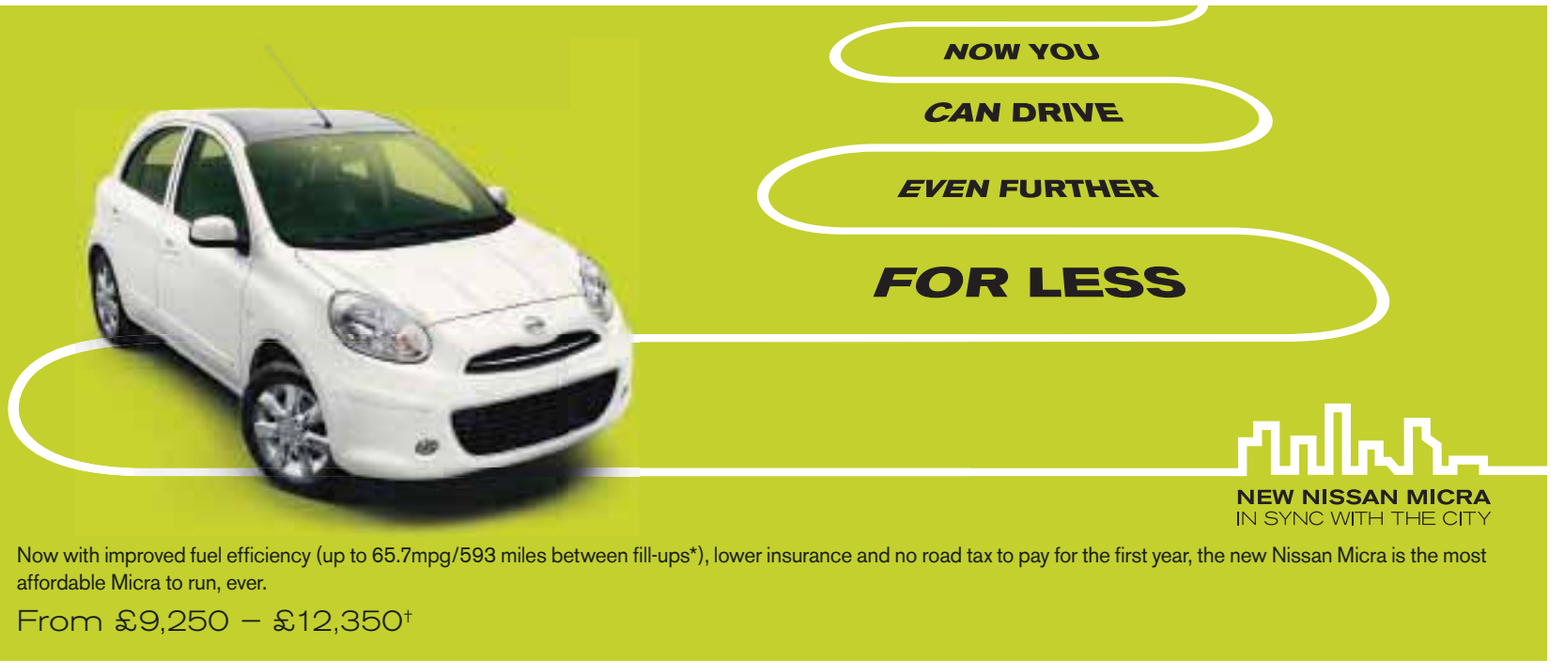
'Swapsies' deal may help the ix35 queue

HYUNDAI is offering to help buyers on a lengthening waiting list for its popular ix35 model.

The Korean marque says its ix35 1.7-litre diesel model is more freely available, allowing Hyundai to offer such cars to its 200 longest waiting customers as an interim solution.

The offer will enable customers to own a new 1.7-litre diesel manual ix35 immediately, and run it until their order for a ix35 2.0-litre diesel version is ready. Customers can then move to the new 2.0-litre car – all for the price of their original order.

Hyundai UK's managing director, Tony Whitehorn, said: "Customer satisfaction is our priority and we hope that this offer of an alternative ix35 will be attractive for our longest waiting customers."



Now with improved fuel efficiency (up to 65.7mpg/593 miles between fill-ups*), lower insurance and no road tax to pay for the first year, the new Nissan Micra is the most affordable Micra to run, ever.

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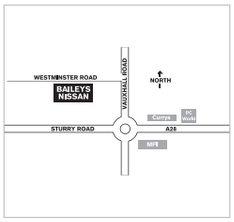

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*Refers to EXTRA URBAN fuel consumption figures – based on Micra 1.2 with manual transmission on a full tank of petrol. †Model shown is Micra 1.2 Tekna manual priced at £12,350 on the road plus optional metallic paint at £400 inc VAT. Information correct at time of going to press. Models subject to availability. Nissan Motor (GB) Ltd, The Rivers Office Park, Denham Way, Rickmansworth, Hertfordshire WD3 9YS.

Fuel consumption figures for Nissan MICRA Range: CO_2 125-115g/km – URBAN 42.2-46.3mpg/6.7-6.1L/100km – EXTRA URBAN 61.4-65.7mpg/4.6-4.3L/100km – COMBINED 52.3-56.5mpg/5.4-5.0L/100km.

Seat's little tax busters

by SAM DAVISON

CHANCELLOR George Osborne's Budget has put Seat's super-frugal line-up of Ibiza E Ecomotive models in pole position for fleet and business drivers looking to keep a lid on their company car tax and running costs.

Company car tax – referred to as benefit in kind (BIK) – is based on a percentage of the vehicle's recommended retail price, the type of fuel it uses, the amount of CO2 it emits and the driver's salary level.

Prior to the Chancellor's speech, petrol-engined cars emitting between 99g/km and 120g/km fell into the lowest BIK bracket for conventional-engined vehicles and were taxed at 10 per cent. Low-emitting diesels like the Ibiza, meanwhile, were taxed at 13 per cent because of the three per cent diesel surcharge.

SAVINGS: The Seat Ibiza E Ecomotive range can help business drivers cut tax costs

However, the Chancellor's decision to tighten the lower limit for low-carbon vehicles from April, 2013, reduces that bottom BIK threshold to 94g/km or below.

Fortunately for latest generation Ibiza E Ecomotive drivers, or prospective purchasers, their cars will still qualify for the very lowest diesel BIK rate of 13 per cent thanks to CO2 emissions as low as 92g/km.

Ally this to the fact that Ibiza E Ecomotives – available in sporty SC, practical 5dr and capacious ST estate bodystyles – are capable of more than 80mpg on the official combined cycle and it's easy to see them tempting more fleet and company managers and their drivers.

Seat UK fleet sales chief Nick Andrews, said: "The Ibiza E Ecomotive range is proving increasingly attractive to a wide variety of our customers with, in particular, the ST version making great inroads thanks to its practicality and style."

The third generation 'green' Ibiza, now badged E Ecomotive to reflect its super-frugal performance, achieves its eco status through a tweaked 75PS (74bhp) 1.2-litre diesel, Start/Stop technology and recovery of energy from braking to recharge the battery, this last by-passing the alternator and saving a drain on the engine.

Prices for these greenest Ibizas start at £13,490.

Barretts scoops BMW award

BARRETTS of Canterbury's Accident Repair Centre is celebrating a coveted award from German premium manufacturer BMW.

The Barretts group, established in 1902, operates Broad Oak BMW dealerships in Canterbury and Ashford backed by the repair centre, which has just been made 2010 BMW Bodyshop of the Year after a period of review and enhancement of its services.

Barretts' MD Paul Barrett said: "This award demonstrates what can be achieved with determination and focus. I am delighted for workshop manager Darren Blunden and his team.

"The changes we have made mean that whether a customer meets one of our bodyshop advisors in Ashford, or one of our receptionists in Canterbury, they experience the same high-quality service and consistent experience of the Barretts brand."

He added that, in difficult trading conditions, bodyshops were increasingly recognising that every client contact provides an opportunity to develop new sales opportunities.

"There is much talk of 'up-selling'," he said. "But the best results are achieved by organisations which adopt a coherent customer service philosophy that extends throughout the business.

"Barretts is a prime example of a company that is achieving success by adopting a 'joined-up' approach to influencing retail customers; putting in place systems and processes that have enabled them to overcome the universal challenge of maintaining effective communications across multiple sites."

Darren Blunden said: "We already had good customer service processes in place. However, the workshop focused all our minds on the factors critical to our success in terms of seeking out new business from existing clients, the importance of adopting consistent practices across all sites and pro-active marketing of the Barretts brand.

"Later, with great audit results, a strong training record and achievement of our Key Performance Indicators (KPIs), we're going from strength-to-strength."

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2007/07 PLATE KIA PICANTO 1.1 LS 5 DOOR

in midnight black with contrasting black cloth interior air conditioning electric windows central locking power steering c/d in-car entertainment system drivers multiple airbag protection system this car is one owner from new with a full main dealer service history offers great fuel economy and good value for money at only £3,995

2003/03 PLATE MERCEDES A160 ELEGANCE AUTO 5 DOOR

in Royal metallic blue with contrasting black cloth interior air conditioning Electric windows multiple airbag protection system c/d in car entertainment system electric adjustable door mirrors remote control central locking alloy wheels cruise control height adjustable front seats front center armrest this car is offered with a full main dealer service history would make a good family car and represents great value for money at only £3,995

2003/03 PLATE ROVER 25 IL STEPSPEED AUTO 5 DOOR

in chili red with contrasting Grey cloth interior Electric windows-power steering remote control central locking electric adjustable door mirrors multiple airbag protection system electric tilt and slide sunroof drivers seat height adjustment c/d in car entertainment system this car would make a great family car is offered with a full service history and good value for money at only £2,995

2003/03 PLATE TOYOTA CELICA T SPORT VVTLI COUPE 3 DOOR

in moonlight blue metallic with contrasting dark grey leather interior air conditioning electric windows remote control central locking c/d in car entertainment system alloy wheels electric adjustable door mirrors 6 speed gearbox multiple airbag protection system front fog lights rear boot spoiler this car is offered with only 67,000 miles from new full service history and is great value for money at only £5,495

2005/05 PLATE PEUGEOT 407 DIESEL 2.0HDI S 4 DOOR

in ice blue metallic with contrasting dark grey interior 6 speed gearbox electric windows air conditioning remote control central locking c/d in car entertainment system front fog lights multiple airbag protection system electric adjustable door mirrors drivers seat height adjustment this car offers great fuel economy and good value for money £4,495

2004/04 PLATE FORD FIESTA 1.4 FLAME 3 DOOR

in stardust metallic silver with contrasting black cloth interior air conditioning electric windows multiple airbag protection system alloy wheels remote control central locking heated front screen drivers seat height adjustment front fog lights electric adjustable door mirrors c/d in car entertainment system this car is offered with only 32,000 miles from new with a full main dealer service history great fuel economy and good value for money at only £3,995

2000/W PLATE VOLKSWAGEN POLO 1.4 SE 3 DOOR

in metallic red with contrasting red and grey cloth interior electric window power steering electric adjustable door mirrors central locking alloy wheels front fog lights height adjustable front seats electric sunroof-c/d in car entertainment system multiple airbag protection system this car would make a great first car or family runabout £2,695

2002/52 PLATE TOYOTA LANDCRUISER AMAZON 4.2TD AUTO 5 DOOR

in moondust metallic silver with contrasting grey leather interior air conditioning electric windows alloy wheels electric adjustable door mirrors 7 seats electric adjustable seats heated front seats remote control central locking electric sunroof this car has has to many extras to list with only 76,000 miles from new and lots of space would make a great family car £14,995

2003/03 PLATE TOYOTA COROLLA 1.4 VVTI 5 DOOR

in charcoal metaile grey with contrasting black cloth interior air conditioning electric windows alloy wheels-c/d in car entertainment system remote control central locking electric adjustable door mirrors multiple airbag protection system onboard trip computer drivers seat height adjustment this car is offered with a full service history, two owners from new and would make a great family car, sensibly priced at only £3,995

2002/02 PLATE VOLKSWAGEN PASSAT 2.0 SE AUTO 4 DOOR

in metallic charcoal grey with contrasting black cloth interior-air conditioning-electric windows-remote control central locking-alloy wheels-c/d in-car entertainment system-electric adjustable door mirrors-drivers seat height adjustment-multiple airbag protection system-this car offers great value for money and has a full service history. £3,495

2006/06 PLATE FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI EDGE 115BHP 5 DOOR

in metallic moondust silver with contrasting black cloth interior air con electric windows multiple airbag protection system remote control central locking alloy wheels electric adjustable door mirrors c/d in car entertainment system rear parking sensors front fog lights heated front screen electric drivers seat height adjustment auto lights auto wipers front center armrest on board computer this car offers great fuel economy and good value for money at only £4,495

ARRIVING SHORTLY

2007/07 PLATE FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC CLIMATE 5 DOOR

in ocean blue metallic with contrasting black cloth interior air conditioning alloy wheels remote control central locking electric windows front fog lights drivers seat height adjustment c/d in car entertainment system multiple airbag protection system electric adjustable door mirrors this car is one owner from new with a full service history and offers great value for money at only £6,495

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P REG/1997 MAZDA 323 1.5 LXI 5 door in metallic red alloy wheels power steering electric windows this car has is mot and is good value for money at only £695

2001/51 PLATE RENAULT ESPACE 2.0 the race in metallic silver air con alloys remote control central locking 7 seats new mot £2,995

1999/V PLATE LANDROVER FREELANDER 1.8 XEI 3 door in white with contrasting grey cloth interior sunroof-power steering-c/d in car entertainment system central locking detachable hardtop alloys electric windows in great condition with only 69,000 miles at only £2,495

2000/X PLATE FORD FOCUS 1.6 ZETEC auto estate in metallic black alloys power steering front fog lights electric windows at only £1,495

1997/P PLATE RENAULT MEGANE RT 16.E scenic metallic silver with contrasting grey cloth interior-electric windows-power steering-twin sunroofs-this car is great value for money and would make a good family car,mot and taxed £795

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DrivingReview

by SAMDAVISON

Chevrolet Orlando

Chevy 'fun bus' makes change to boring MPVs

IT CAN'T be an accident that Chevrolet has created an all-new seven-seat MPV named after the theme park capital of the world – Orlando in Florida.

It offers entertainment with every ride, minus the bumps and worst rolling motion of some other MPVs I could mention.

It is also good value, cramming in seven comfortably and with Transatlantic lines that suggest some Florida sunshine might be glinting off the gold Chevy badge on the grille.

However, the newcomer will not be sold in the States, probably because it is a tad small for the home market's burger and fries-fuelled demographics.

But that muscular styling makes it stand apart in a rather more slimline UK and European MPV market and, combined with good handling characteristics for this sector, should attract male buyers who would normally have to be strong-armed into buying a people carrier "for the sake of the family".

The beefy Orlando's good manners derive from a slightly stretched version of the same platform used for the US brand's sharply styled middleweight saloon, the Cruze, and the hugely impressive Astra hatchback from GM stablemate Vauxhall.

The latter also produces the big-selling Zafira seven-seater and will surely be narked that GM bosses have allowed Chevy to launch such a competent in-house rival to muscle in when there is quite enough other pressure from the revised VW Touran and Mazda5, all-new – though pug-ugly – Ford Grand C-Max, suave Peugeot 5008 and futuristic Citroen C4 Grand Picasso.

Adding insult to injury, the arrangement and versatility of the Orlando's seven seats is also reminiscent of the Zafira, with decent accommodation for all but the leggiest adults in the rear pair, while conversion from full seven-up mode to cavernous van and to all other permutations takes just seconds.

I was also impressed by cabin quality; Chevrolet's global market aspirations took off when GM acquired the failed Korean Daewoo motor operation a few years ago, but it inherited some terrible interior finishing that is fast being addressed.

But while you can sort the visual and tactile quality relatively easily, the design and

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ergonomics takes more practice and the Korean-built Orlando really could do with more stowage space – though the boot is huge when the rearmost chairs are folded.

There is also the major gaff of having the front 12v power socket mounted close to the handbrake and gearshift; by the time I had double-connected a sat nav and little un's latest game player it seemed like I was changing gear by plunging my hand into a saucepan of spaghetti.

Of course, the Orlando still won't set your heart racing in the driving department either – but few MPVs do. However, it is impressive that a large and hefty yet smooth riding vehicle such as this does not loll about too badly.

The 2.0-litre diesel engine, even in the lower 130PS (129bhp) output of the test car, drives this fun bus well too yet still averages in the late 40s for mpg.

On paper, the alternative 163PS (162bhp) diesel offers little more performance, is no better or worse on fuel and will cost more upfront to buy.

The clear-cut buying decision though is avoiding the entry engine option – the 1.8-litre petrol. It will catch the eye with its £16,395 start price plus usual Chevy five-year warranty deal and get you talking to the dealer, but around £1,200 gets you into a diesel and will deliver far better performance and fuel economy – a no brainer.

The 2.0-litre diesel VCDi in mid-range LT trim looks like the right buy for most people and will set you back £18,645 – a lot of Orlando rides for the money.

DrivingPortfolio

CHEVROLET ORLANDO 2.0 LT VCDI 1 £18,645

Driving appeal (OUT OF FIVE)	★★★
Image	★★★★
Space	★★★★★
Value	★★★★★
Reliability	★★★★
How green?	★★★
Road tax	Band G – £155/year
Best rival	Citroën C4 Grand Picasso

TheVerdict

DON'T LIKE: the lack of thought apparent in the cabin layout, but this is nit-picking

NOT SURE: UK buyers are yet fully aware of Chevrolet's recent gains in quality to add to undoubted value

REALLY LIKE: how the Orlando stands apart from established players

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159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 3.2 V6 JTS Q4 LUSSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

159, 3.2 V6 JTS Q4 LUSSO, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player climate control electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 30376 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 2.4 JTDM LUSSO, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 28347 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

159, 1.9 JTDM 16v LUSSO, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, alfa red, 70000 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

BRERA, 2.4 JTDM SV, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player cruise control diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint leather interior multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 28347 miles, £13000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

AUDI

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

A3, sport tdi, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, atral silver, 20490 miles, £11000, Maidstone, 08448 759296 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6 Sports, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows multiple airbags power steering adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, silver, 60000 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering locking, silver, 8367 miles, £15000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, sport tdi, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDi SE, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control remote central locking adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 52382 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 tdi se, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 59000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDi SE, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control remote central locking adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, black, 52382 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6 Sports, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows multiple airbags power steering adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, silver, 60000 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 11095 miles, £17000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver, 40269 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering traction control remote central locking, silver, 8367 miles, £15000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, sport tdi, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 59000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDi, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, grey, 84428 miles, £8750, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0T FSI S LINE DSG, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, grey, 84428 miles, £8750, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDi, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 22065 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 tdi se, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column front armrest body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 59000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6 Sports, 2004, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows multiple airbags power steering adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, silver, 60000 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, SE FSI, 2006, air conditioning alarm fitted cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint multiple airbags remote central locking, mauve met. 24500 miles, £9500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0 tdi se, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering traction control twin airbags remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column front armrest body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, silver, 59000 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 2.0T FSI S LINE DSG, 2006, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser leather interior multiple airbags power steering sports seats traction control trip computer remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, grey, 84428 miles, £8750, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, 1.9 SPORTBACK TDi, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cruise control diesel electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover traction control remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 22065 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 11095 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver, 40269 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

A3, TDI Sport, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, black, 11095 miles, £17000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, SE, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver, 40269 miles, £10000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, 1.6, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player locking, silver, 8367 miles, £15000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

A3, sport tdi, 2005, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag adj drivers seat, atral silver, 20490 miles, £11000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

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CAR OF THE WEEK
59 Plate. Skoda Octavia VRS 2.0 TDi
Finished in Black, 20,000 miles, £15,995

Used Cars

* **58 Plate. Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Elegance 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Black Magic Pearlescent with a Black Leather interior, 18,500 miles. £13,995
* **58 Plate. Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD Elegance DSG 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Anthracite Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 19,200 miles. £12,995
* **07 Plate. Skoda Octavia 2.0 TDI PD vRS 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Black Magic Metallic with a Multicolour Velour - Leather interior, 35,250 miles. £10,995
* **52 Plate. Skoda Octavia 1.8 vRS 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Diamond Silver Metallic with a Multicolour Partial Leather/metallic Mesh Cloth interior, 91,350 miles. £3,995
* **08 Plate. Skoda Roomster 1.4 16V 2 5-Dr MPV**
Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 33,335 miles. £7,795
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.2 (70 BHP) S 5-Dr Estate**
Finished in Green Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 2,771 miles. £9,495
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.2 (70 BHP) SE 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in White Mica Two Tone with a Black Cloth interior, 14,150 miles. £9,295
* **09 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Estate**
Finished in Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 10,700 miles. £8,995
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.6 16V (105 BHP) 5-Dr Estate**
Finished in Brilliant Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 27,250 miles. £8,795
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 3 1.9 TDI PD (105 BHP) 5-Dr Estate**
Finished in Anthracite Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 26,181 miles. £8,495
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Brilliant Silver Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 14,900 miles. £7,495
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 16V (85 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Black Metallic Two Tone with a Black Cloth interior, 25,100 miles. £7,295
* **10 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Grey Cloth interior, 9,500 miles. £6,995
* **07 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.2 HTP 12V (70 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Brilliant Silver Metallic, 22,500 miles. £6,995
* **07 Plate. Skoda Fabia 2 1.4 TDI PD (80 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Beige Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 16,400 miles. £6,795
* **58 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Dynamic Blue with a Black Cloth interior, 13,200 miles. £6,495
* **08 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1 1.2 HTP 6V (60 BHP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Blue Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 26,875 miles. £6,295
* **56 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Elegance (100 HP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Graphite Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 22,500 miles. £4,995
* **53 Plate. Skoda Fabia 1.4 16V Elegance (100 HP) 5-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Black Magic Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 28,750 miles. £3,795

Other Makes

* **56 Plate. Volkswagen Golf 2.0 TDI Sport (140 PS) 5-Dr**
Finished in Steel Grey Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 80,100 miles. £8,995
* **54 Plate. Honda Civic 2.0 Type S 5-Door Hatchback**
Finished in Nighthawk Black Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 47,800 miles. £5,795
* **04 Plate. Ford Galaxy 1.9 TDI Zetec (115 PS) 5-Dr MPV**
Finished in Black Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 10,510 miles. £5,795
* **08 Plate. Ford Ka 1.3 Zetec Climate 3-Dr Hatchback**
Finished in Metallic Machine Silver, 12,500 miles. £4,995
* **05 Plate Peugeot 1007 3 Door 1.4 HDi Dolce**
Finished in Cayman Green Metallic with a Black Cloth interior, 25,026 miles. £3,995

*Correct at time of going to press.

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*Reduction equivalent to 20.0% VAT applied to the original base price including factory fitted optional extras on Fabia Monte Carlo new retail orders before 3rd April 2011. Reduction applied to the RRP including factory fitted optional extras. VAT is still applicable and will be shown on the customer invoice. †7.9% APR representative is available on all new retail sales before 31st March 2011 (subject to availability). Indemnities may be required. Subject to status. Available for over 18's. Excludes the Channel Islands. Skoda Finance. Freepost Skoda Finance. Offers may be varied or withdrawn at anytime, are subject to availability and cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. Prices and specifications are accurate at time of print. Model shown varies from UK specification. Official fuel consumption in mpg (litres/100km) for the Fabia range: Urban 36.7 (7.7) – 68.9 (4.1), Extra Urban 54.3 (5.2) – 94.2 (3.0), Combined 45.6 (6.2) – 83.1 (3.4). CO2 emissions for the Fabia range 148 – 89g/km.

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ENTRIES INVITED

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FIAT

500, POP, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning electric windows immobiliser power steering, minimal grey, 30780 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, MULITJET POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel electric windows power steering, silver, 5532 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 LOUNGE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 2758 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 500 POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows multiple airbags power steering adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, silver, 19921 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £13980, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 SPORT, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser power steering tonneau cover front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking remote audio controls, cha cha cha azure, 1500 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pink, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering sunroof, pink, 2000 miles, £10294, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, grey, 20875 miles, £6700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, red, 8063 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Pop 3dr (Start Stop) (2010 -), 2010, abs brakes central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering split folding rear seats adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests, white, 2300 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Pop 3dr (Start Stop) (2010 -), 2010, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, white, 951 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, white, 27210 miles, £8299, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, SPORT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player central locking electric windows power steering, yellow, 9125 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Multijet 95 Sport (Plus Motorparks Pack), 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player sports seats remote central locking adjustable steering column, electroclash grey, 10 miles, £13800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, abs brakes cd player power steering, white, 25860 miles, £6600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2010, white, 6 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, pop, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning electric windows immobiliser power steering, carbonio black, 29455 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, red, 55 miles, £13990, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, bossanova white, 23440 miles, £7454, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 1971, leather interior sunroof, red, 73495 miles, £10000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags, black, 21180 miles, £6600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with AIR CON and BLUE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, white, 21000 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 261 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with AIR CON and BLUE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, white, 26837 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Lounge, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows multiple airbags remote central locking remote audio controls heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, white, 10600 miles, £8600, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 1.4 ABARTH T-JET, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering sports seats tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests height adj drivers seat, light grey, 9202 miles, £13000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP, 2010, abs brakes cd player electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking body coloured bumpers, black, 3000 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 1.4 LOUNGE, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, grey, 35101 miles, £8500, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, Sport, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, cream, 6481 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.3 MULTIJET POP, 2009, cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power steering tonneau cover remote central locking body coloured bumpers, black, 20000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.3 MULTIJET LOUNGE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 8109 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking electric windows power steering, silver, 17238 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.4 LOUNGE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows front fog lights immobiliser multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls body coloured bumpers, red, 3000 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP, 2008, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, bossanova white, 22365 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP, 2010, cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking, black, 10 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, abs brakes cd player remote central locking, black, 24617 miles, £6800, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with AIR CON and BLUE, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning cd remote audio controls, black, 12138 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with BLUEME BLUETOOTH, 2009, bluetooth car kit cd player drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking, carbonio black, 19513 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP, 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted bluetooth car kit cd player central locking electric windows full service history immobiliser multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests, silver, 15000 miles, £7495, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Lounge, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser mp3 player multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, blue, 2000 miles, £9500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2, 2008, black, 56 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 55 miles, £14000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.3 MULTIJET SPORT, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel electric windows half leather trim immobiliser multiple airbags power steering sports seats tonneau cover trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers height adj drivers seat, red, 22400 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, red, 55 miles, £14100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop, 2009, non standard colour, 16632 miles, £6999, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Multijet Sport, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 475 miles, £11000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop (Start Stop), 2010, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering, blue, 10 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, TwinAir Pop, 2010, abs brakes alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, blue, 10 miles, £10995, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with AIR CON and BLUE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser power fold mirrors power steering tonneau cover remote central locking body coloured bumpers, minimal grey, 28749 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Lounge, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering, white, 7873 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Lounge StartStop (Plus Motorparks Pack), 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points remote audio controls, tech house grey, 10 miles, £11300, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Pop, 2010, abs brakes electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points height adj drivers seat, grey, 50 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, Pop Start Stop (Plus Motorparks Pack), 2010, abs brakes drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points, yellow, 10 miles, £9900, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, cd player drivers airbag, red, 261 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £14100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, black, 7811 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, 16v, 2008, blue, 6654 miles, £14000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

500, Special Edition By Diesel(Plus Motorparks Pack), 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player remote central locking isofix child seat points height adj drivers seat, diesel green, 10 miles, £13100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, POP, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning electric windows immobiliser power steering, bossa nova white, 27473 miles, £7000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Pop, 2010, abs brakes cd player electric windows immobiliser multiple airbags power steering trip computer front passenger air bag deactivation switch remote central locking isofix child seat points adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, blue, 1000 miles, £8500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, MULTIJET POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel electric windows power steering, bossanova white, 7842 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, MULTIJET POP, 2009, abs brakes cd player central locking diesel electric windows power steering, blue, 6357 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 POP with BLUEME BLUETOOTH, 2009, abs brakes bluetooth car kit cd player electric windows immobiliser power steering tonneau cover remote central locking body coloured bumpers, carbonio black, 18045 miles, £7500, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.2 Lounge, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows multiple airbags remote central locking remote audio controls heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat space saver spare wheel, white, 10600 miles, £8600, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

500, 1.3 MULTIJET LOUNGE, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering tonneau cover remote central locking remote audio controls, silver, 8109 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

FORD

C-MAX, 1.6 Zetec, 2007, tonic, 14000 miles, £7995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Edge, 2010, tango red, 8000 miles, £10495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Edge, 2010, moondust silver, 9000 miles, £9495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec Climate, 2008, panther black, 29917 miles, £6695, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec Blue, 2008, ocean blue, 19548 miles, £6695, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Flame, 2003, panther black, 71700 miles, £3495, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Edge, 2010, colorado red, 2000 miles, £9995, Tenterden, 01580 765011 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, lx56tyc, insurance group 4 2 owners abs body coloured bumpers drivers airbag folding rear seats front electric windows height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking, tango, 34000 miles, £4283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, vo57zvp, insurance group 7 1 owner service history abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer, panther black, 38000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, kn57xac, insurance group 5 1 owner service history abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable tango red, 26000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ya02eoz, insurance group 6 service history alloy wheels body coloured bumpers central locking drivers airbag folding rear seats height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser power steering radio/cassette sunroof trip computer, radiant red, 59000 miles, £2483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, ck09muy, insurance group 4 1 owner service history abs air conditioning alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment steering wheel reach adjustment trip computer, squeeze, 23000 miles, £8000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 3, lv57rou, insurance group 5 2 owners service history abs air conditioning alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer, deep navy, 42000 miles, £5483, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, lt07ldf, insurance group 7 1 owner service history abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels audio remote control body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser leather seats passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking trip computer, panther black, 13000 miles, £6000, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 5, ea04wfm, insurance group 5 3 owners service history abs air conditioning alarm alloy wheels body coloured bumpers drivers airbag electricdoor mirrors folding rear seats front electric windows front fog lights heated door mirrors height adjustable drivers seat immobiliser passenger airbag power steering radio/cd remote central locking steering wheel rake adjustment trip computer, moondust silver, 55000 miles, £4283, Crayford, 01322 281525 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4, 2008, black, 55 miles, £17000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking cruise control drivers airbag electric windows half leather trim immobiliser metallic paint power steering single cd player trip computer remote central locking remote audio controls, moondust, 2968 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning central locking electric windows immobiliser remote central locking, black, 31913 miles, £5200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Edge, 2010, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts, silver, 16263 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, black, 46300 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Style Climate, 2007, abs brakes air conditioning cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen, black, 31913 miles, £5200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, zetec s, 2008, black, 40778 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec S, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) remote audio controls adjustable 5209 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, TDCI Zetec, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 21196 miles, £8000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, STYLE CLIMATE, 2007, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, black, 8349 miles, £5800, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 TDCI Titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player diesel electric windows immobiliser metallic paint power heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, blue, 20000 miles, £10000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Titanium TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer remote central locking auto headlights and wipers quickclear windscreen remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, gold, 19367 miles, £11000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Titanium, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player cruise control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering tinted glass trip computer twin airbags remote central locking auto headlights and wipers quickclear windscreen remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, vision blue, 505 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0, 2008, silver, 11 miles, £22500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Zetec, 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts, blue, 18185 miles, £9200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Style Climate, 2006, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted automatic transmission cd player central locking drivers airbag immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags quickclear windscreen adjustable steering column, ocean blue, 19909 miles, £6000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, TDCI Zetec, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering trip computer remote central locking, grey, 9056 miles, £8700, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Style Climate, 2008, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted cd player drivers airbag electric windows full service history immobiliser metallic paint power steering twin airbags remote central locking quickclear windscreen adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers, silver, 13221 miles, £6500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Edge, 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts, blue, 10477 miles, £9225, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 ZETEC AUTOMATIC, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels automatic transmission cd player central locking electric windows full service history metallic paint power steering trip computer remote central locking quickclear windscreen remote audio controls body coloured bumpers, panther black, 37181 miles, £8999, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0, 2008, silver, 10 miles, £22500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec TDCi, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid trip computer twin airbags curtain airbags front parking sensors remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, frozen white, 3262 miles, £12500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.4 Zetec, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power fold mirrors power steering reverse parking aid trip computer twin airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and blue, 438 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, style, 2008, abs brakes cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering remote central locking, black, 43117 miles, £5000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Edge, 2009, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts, blue, 9338 miles, £9275, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Zetec TDCi, 2010, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint power steering trip computer twin airbags remote central locking remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, panther black, 7729 miles, £12500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, Edge, 2010, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser power steering split folding rear seats remote central locking adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers rear headrests 3x3 point rear seat belts, silver, 16177 miles, £8925, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, TDCI Titanium, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser power steering single cd player split folding rear seats trip computer remote central locking adjustable steering column height adj drivers seat, blue, 34262 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.25 Zetec, 2010, abs brakes central locking drivers airbag electric windows multiple airbags power steering adjustable steering column 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, red, 6515 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 2.0, 2008, cd player drivers airbag front fog lights metallic paint, silver, 10 miles, £22500, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

FIESTA, 1.6 Titanium TDCi, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels bluetooth car kit cd player cruise control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser metallic paint leather interior power steering reverse parking aid tinted glass traction control trip computer twin airbags remote central locking multi functional tunepoint (i-pod and mp3 connection) quickclear windscreen remote audio controls adjustable steering column body coloured bumpers 3x3 point rear seat belts height adj drivers seat, vision blue, 11540 miles, £12000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

KIA

CARENS, 2.0 CRDi GS, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 34135 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 27837 miles, £9200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser satellite navigation, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, grey, 26261 miles, £9200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, GS AUTO, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, star silver, 5800 miles, £8700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16220, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, blue, 164 miles, £16000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £16100, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 GS 7 SEATER, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows , 33000 miles, £8000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16220, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 GS 7 SEATER, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows r, 33000 miles, £8000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, black, 35027 miles, £8700, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 56 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, blue, 164 miles, £16000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 44 miles, £16100, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, black, 26529 miles, £9200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking diesel drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser, red, 44 miles, £16200, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 26425 miles, £9000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, GS, 2009, power steering, silver, 31300 miles, £6000, Ramsgate, 0844 856 4496 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 CRDi GS, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 34135 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 27837 miles, £9200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, GS AUTO, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alarm fitted alloy wheels cd player central locking drivers airbag electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering single cd player split folding rear seats twin airbags remote central locking body coloured bumpers rear headrests heated door mirrors height adj drivers seat, star silver, 5800 miles, £8700, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking climate control diesel drivers airbag electric windows front fog lights immobiliser satellite navigation, red, 55 miles, £16200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, grey, 26261 miles, £9200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 55 miles, £16200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, black, 26529 miles, £9200, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, black, 35027 miles, £8700, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, GS, 2009, power steering, silver, 31300 miles, £6000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 26425 miles, £9000, Ashford, 0844 826 5918 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 CRDi GS, 2009, abs brakes air conditioning alloy wheels cd player electric windows immobiliser metallic paint multiple airbags power steering remote central locking remote audio controls, black, 34135 miles, £9000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, silver, 27837 miles, £9200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, black, 39 miles, £16000, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, CRDI GS, 2009, abs brakes alloy wheels power steering, grey, 26261 miles, £9200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0 TD Sr, 2008, abs brakes alarm fitted cd player central locking 55 miles, £16200, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

CARENS, 2.0, 2008, blue, 55 miles, £16220, Canterbury, 0844 856 4494 (TRADE)

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Different elements to measures of inflation

TONY HETHERINGTON
MONEY CLINIC

Q What is the difference between inflation as measured by the consumer prices index and the retail prices index? They are both way in front of anything that is offered as an interest rate by the banks, so there is no chance of the ordinary person's savings keeping pace, let alone making a profit.

A Both measures of inflation are based on changes in the cost of living, but they include different ingredients. The biggest difference is that the CPI does not include housing costs. If average rents or mortgage rates rise, the RPI rate of inflation will go up, but the CPI will not be affected. Why does this matter? It matters most to pensioners whose income is linked to rises in the cost of living. A rise in RPI can easily outstrip a rise in the CPI, so a pension tied to the CPI will not fare as well. But I suspect your question is based on savings interest rather than pensions. And you are right – it is hard for savings to keep pace with prices. There are few answers to the question of how you can guard your savings against inflation. The Saffron Building Society (0800 072 1100) offers one of the few accounts that stand a chance of matching inflation. It has a six-year investment account linked to the RPI, and if you use it as an Isa, you can sidestep income tax and get a genuine inflation-proof return. The minimum investment is £3,000, but only dive in if you are sure you can stay the course – pull out early and you will not get the full benefit. The other answer is to sit back and wait. There was a hint in the recent budget that National Savings index-linked certificates are about to make a comeback. No date has been announced but if past performance is anything to go by, we could see a modest real return on top of inflation, which would be good news for all savers.

Q I have about £4,000 outstanding on my Visa card account. If I transfer this to a different card, which will give the longest interest-free period?

A For the past week or two, the answer to your question has changed almost as quickly as I can write it. MBNA (0800 068 8788) broke new ground when it announced it would give 18 months interest-free to new cardholders who switched balances from their old cards. However, there is a "handling fee" of 2.88pc – about £115 to you. Virgin (0800 096 9939) also went for an interest-free period of 18 months on balance transfers, and threw in a zero interest rate on purchases for the first three months. Its transfer fee is 2.89pc, which would also cost you about £115. But Barclaycard (0800 731 0200) seems to be taking the lead. Its interest-free period is now 20 months, though the transfer will cost you 3.2pc, or £128. Whichever you choose, you will only get the best deal if you repay your outstanding balance during the interest-free period.

Q I wrote to you a year ago about my shares in Bradford & Bingley. As I said then, the government effectively stole my shares by nationalising the bank and refusing compensation. This decision has now been upheld, so is there any avenue left for shareholders to pursue?

A The government's refusal to compensate shareholders has been upheld by an independent valuer because when the company was nationalised in 2008 it was on the verge of bankruptcy. If the government had withdrawn financial support, Bradford & Bingley would have collapsed and your shares would have been worthless anyway. The real question mark hangs over the issue of fresh shares in the company a couple of months before it failed. If it was solvent then, what made it fail just weeks later? There is an action group of shareholders that is calling for a public inquiry. There are details online at www.bbactiongroup.org, but I would be surprised if any compensation offer emerged from Whitehall now.

Q I paid a bill with a cheque dated for March 1, allowing time for my February pay to get to my bank account, but the company banked the cheque in February and my bank accepted it. This made me overdrawn. Should my bank have honoured the cheque before March 1?

A If you give someone a post-dated cheque, this is nothing more than a request to them not to deposit the cheque before that date. It will not stop your bank cashing the cheque or taking any notice of the date on it, I'm afraid.

Q Is a workplace syndicate in the National Lottery legal and binding? Could the organiser refuse to share out any prize money?

A You would have to prove there was a binding agreement. To be safe, draw up a letter saying how much everyone pays, and how much they would get from any prize money. Then get everyone to sign it, and make copies for each member of the syndicate.

■ **If you have a personal-finance question, write to Tony Hetherington, MyMoney24, Prospect House, Rouen Road, Norwich NR1 1RE. We regret that neither Tony nor the MyMoney24 team can enter into personal correspondence.**

FAMILY AID: Students are being helped with higher fees by their parents and grandparents.

Grandparents support students

Nearly a quarter of all parents and grandparents have begun to make provision for higher university tuition fees, even though most adults think would-be students themselves should take at least some responsibility for paying their way through further education.

The role played by grandparents is highlighted by the Virgin Money research, which suggests that more than 20pc of people aged over 65 are saving to help their grandchildren through university.

From September next year, annual tuition fees will rise to up to £9,000, although they will be paid in arrears once students earn above a certain level.

Grant Bather of Virgin Money said: "Tuition fees are going to rise substantially and it is clear that parents and grandparents are already starting to prepare for the financial burden.

"It is interesting that people believe students themselves should be contributing as well. Ultimately, they will be the beneficiaries so there is some justice in them saving.

"However saving for potential bills of up to £27,000 will be a major undertaking."

Time is running out for tax-free saving

By ADAM AIKEN
MyMoney24 editor

People wanting to take advantage of tax-free saving this year have just a few days left to act, otherwise they will lose their annual allowances for good.

The current tax year ends on April 5, and while a lot has been said about the changes due to come in at the start of 2011-12, it's important not to overlook the opportunities that will disappear at the same time.

With average household disposable income falling for the first time in three decades, a growing number of people might find they have no spare cash to save. Others might feel they do not want to put their money away at a time when interest rates are paltry and so few accounts are keeping pace with inflation.

But for those who do want to take advantage of the tax-free benefits of cash Isas, the good news is that rates have been creeping up recently. They are still nowhere near the levels of a few years ago, but it's possible to get rates of 3pc-plus on the high street without too much hunting around and without having to lock your money away for a minimum period.

If you have some money to put away but you are not sure whether to use this year's £5,100 cash Isa allowance, remember that anything you put aside now will be well placed to benefit when interest rates start to return to their previous healthy levels.

What you cannot do is post-date your allowance – in other words, if you don't use it now, you will not be able to play catch-up in the future.

"The tax benefits may not be massive in year one, but building up an Isa nest egg over a period of years will prove a wise and rewarding strategy," said Andrew Hagger, an analyst at Moneynet.co.uk.

"With savings rates still historically very low, making use of an Isa is a simple yet effective way of boosting your interest income. The maximum cash deposit for the current tax year is £5,100, but even if you have a smaller sum to save, an Isa still makes financial sense."

There is always a degree of guesswork when it comes to future returns, but there is a growing school of thought among the experts that the best option is a variable-rate account. Going instead for a fixed rate might mean you get a higher return initially, but if rates start to rise, you won't enjoy the benefits.

Kevin Bray, a banking analyst at Defaqto, said: "With so much uncertainty surrounding when and how quickly the Bank of England base rate will rise, it is difficult for people to judge whether they should opt for longer-term savings options.

"Given this situation, it is important for savers considering fixed-term options to be fully aware of the impact a base rate rise could have."

Mr Hagger at Moneynet added: "With variable-rate Isas, you can benefit from a tax-free rate but still retain immediate access to your cash should you need it, and some accounts can be opened with as little as £1.

"The Isa market has been a hotbed of activity with providers clambering for those important best-buy places in the hope it will drive large amounts of business as we approach the tax-year crossover."

■ **For the best cash Isa rates, visit www.mymoney24.co.uk**

In the news

New paternity rules face a patchy take-up

Best buys

Check out the best mortgage deals

On the blogs

Adam Aiken: Energy clampdown comes not a moment too soon

A warm welcome for fuel companies' billing change

The gas and electricity regulator is baring its teeth at the industry. **ADAM AIKEN** reports.

EMPOWERED TO MAKE A CHANGE: From the end of April, Ofgem is to force domestic fuel companies to give at least 30 days' notice of price increases.

The announcement that domestic fuel companies will have to give customers at least 30 days' notice of price increases is the latest salvo in a campaign being waged against suppliers by the energy regulator.

The change, which will come into effect at the end of April, will be a vast improvement from the current system, which allows gas and electricity suppliers to wait up to 90 days before informing people of any price increases.

The news from regulator Ofgem was given a warm welcome by industry analysts.

"If people are going to pay more for their energy, clearly they need to know in advance, not as much as three months later," said Audrey Gallacher, head of energy at Consumer Focus.

"This long-awaited move should help customers to budget for any price rises and make informed decisions early on about whether to switch suppliers."

Lisa Greenfield, energy analyst at Confused.com, said: "It's shocking that currently suppliers don't have to tell their customers until three months after the event. This wouldn't be acceptable with any other sort of financial product and it shouldn't be the case with energy, either."

The latest move by Ofgem follows a recent announcement of a wide-ranging set of proposals which the regulator said would represent a "radical overhaul" of the sector.

Those proposals included sweeping away complex pricing and opening up the market to smaller suppliers, with a threat to the industry of referral to the Competition Commission if it frustrated any reforms.

Ofgem said it found competition was being stifled by a combination of tariff complexity, poor supplier behaviour and a lack of transparency.

In particular, the regulator said the so-called Big Six suppliers had adjusted their prices in response to rising costs more quickly than they cut them when wholesale prices fell.

"Energy companies have failed to play it straight with consumers and so Ofgem is proposing to break the strangle-hold the Big Six have over the electricity market by making them auction up to 20pc of their generation output," said Ofgem chief executive Alistair Buchanan.

"This would increase price transparency and make it easier for new players to enter the retail market. Consumers have told us that energy suppliers' prices are too complicated. It is no surprise that they are bamboozled when [the number of tariffs] has increased from 180 to more than 300 since 2008.

"That is why we are planning to sweep away this complexity so suppliers' prices are fully exposed to allow easy price comparisons."

Ms Greenfield, of Confused.com, said more than 50 new tariffs and price changes had been introduced in the past year alone.

"We have been asking for simplification in the energy market for a long time, so it's exciting news to see Ofgem taking steps to tackle the Big Six's pricing and their tendency to push prices up quicker than they lower them," she said.

"Consumer confidence in the gas and electricity suppliers is at an all-time low, at a time when many households are facing higher household bills, so these changes will certainly be welcome news to many."

Scott Byrom, energy manager at Moneysupermarket.com, said: "For years there has been speculation that the speed at which price increases hit consumers is far quicker than the rate at which price decreases are passed on, and Ofgem is finally looking to stop this unfair practice which sees bill payers left severely out of pocket.

"Also under the microscope is the ease of being able to switch energy deals and the clarity of information around this. Ofgem has identified there is much more the energy companies can do to enable customers to shop around and get better deals on their energy, and to stop bill payers forking out more than necessary for their gas and electricity."

The action by Ofgem has support at the top of government. In his recent budget speech, chancellor George Osborne promised to "closely follow developments in the energy sector in the light of the Ofgem review".

> **"We have been asking for simplification in the energy market for a long time, so it's exciting news to see Ofgem taking steps to tackle the Big Six's pricing and their tendency to push prices up quicker than they lower them**
>
> Lisa Greenfield, Confused.com

PICK OF THE WEEK

In association with the experts at Moneyfacts.co.uk, we highlight some of the best new products launched this week.

Savings: Tesco Bank
A rate increase of 0.2pc sees Tesco's Two-Year Fixed-Rate Saver deal propelled into the top five of the medium-term market with a rate of 3.85pc. Savers can invest between £2,000 and £1m. Further additions and early access are not allowed. The account can be operated by telephone only by savers aged 18 and over.
Why is it good?
Investors looking to lock funds away for a short term should be pleased with this deal, although as with many bonds investors need to commit for the full term as early withdrawals are not permitted.

Savings: Lloyds TSB
The Two-Year Fixed-Rate Cash Isa deal has increased by 0.45pc to 3.6pc. Savers can invest a minimum of £3,000 and further additions are allowed whilst the issue remains open. Funds can be accessed early, subject to a loss of interest. Transfers in are accepted. The account is available to savers aged 16 and over.
Why is it good?
The rate increase has helped boost its position within the highly-competitive fixed-rate Isa market. Paying 3.6pc, the deal sits just below the current two-year fixed market leader, and should please investors looking for a fixed rate with a degree of flexibility on withdrawals.

Mortgages: Skipton Building Society
Skipton has a new two-year fixed-rate deal at 6.19pc until April 30, 2013. The maximum loan-to-value is 90pc. Second-time and remortgage customers can borrow up to £1m, while first-time buyers can borrow up to £250,000. There is a fee of £195. Remortgage borrowers get free valuations and free legal fees, and flexible features such as payment holidays are available to all borrowers.
Why is it good?
Following its product review last week, Skipton has launched another selection of fixed-rate deals. The high loan-to-value will please borrowers with limited deposits, while the low fee and generous incentives for remortgage customers will help to keep overall costs down.

Mortgages: Hanley Economic Building Society
The Hanley has launched a discounted-rate mortgage at 3.79pc (a 1.4pc discount) for three years. The maximum loan-to-value is 80pc and no fee is payable. Customers can borrow between £30,000 and £500,000. There is the flexibility to make overpayments of up to 10pc of the outstanding balance.
Why is it good?
This new rate offers borrowers with deposits of 20pc or more a rather competitive rate. The lack of an arrangement fee should please borrowers looking to keep their additional costs to a minimum.

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INSIDE THIS WEEK

DAVID Cameron's entrepreneur-friendly schemes have been well received by the University of Kent.

The StartUp Britain and Entrepreneur First campaigns will see millions made available to anyone looking to turn a good idea into a business – a Government-led version of Dragons' Den.

It is right that Government is looking to revive the economy from the bottom up. Let's hope the new start-ups are sustainable enough to pump the Government cash back into the market.

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In the zone to combat 'one size fits all' policy

By **SIMON ROBINSON**
simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

A MOVE to ask the Government to amend its strict enterprise zone policy has been welcomed by Kent business leaders.

The Department for Business said it would locate its 10 remaining start-up zones equally, with no more than one zone per Local Enterprise Partnership (LEP) area.

Kent is part of the largest LEP in the country, as it has been grouped together with Essex and East Sussex, leaving the county's most deprived areas with a slim chance of gaining enterprise zone status.

The title comes with associated business perks as firms that choose to set up in enterprise zones benefit through Government incentives such as business discount rates, lenient planning rules and superfast broadband.

Kent County Council leader Paul Carter said the one-for-one ruling has left Kent short-changed and that he would write to the Government in a bid to change ministers' minds.

"It doesn't seem right that, having been encouraged to scale up and form one of the largest LEPs in the country with Essex and East Sussex, we are now being penalised for it," he said.

"Compare that with Oxfordshire, which is a smaller county than Kent yet has its own LEP, and you can see how unfair this ruling is. I don't think they've thought it through and we have a good case to try to get that decision removed. We will protest it and see where it gets us."

Cllr Carter's concerns were reinforced by the Kent Invicta Chamber of Commerce.

Chief executive Jo James said: "We've got to put pressure on the Government. It doesn't seem right that we've been forced into forming the biggest LEP in the country and are then penalised. The knock-on effects of Pfizer's withdrawal from Sandwich could be devastating, so east Kent is an ideal location for an enterprise zone. The county is a priority and we'd like to reiterate everything Cllr Carter has said."

UNITY: Paul Carter and Jo James are among those calling for an east Kent enterprise zone

Andrew Aves, Kent and Medway development manager for the Federation of Small Businesses, said: "Our view is very much that one size should not fit all. This arbitrary allocation is not appropriate for our combined LEP, as there is a serious need that exists in our county, particularly in east Kent.

"Our concern is that this is an area of deprivation that has serious challenges facing it in the next few years and we hope the Government reconsiders its policy."

Chancellor George Osborne named 11 new enterprise zones, mainly in the North, as part of his spring Budget last week. He ignored east Kent, despite the potential loss of 5,000 jobs as a result of Pfizer leaving Sandwich next year.

Cllr Carter said he had not been expecting the Pfizer site to be among the first 11 zones as he had been told the decision-making process had begun some time before the pharmaceutical giant announced it was pulling out of Kent.

He added that proposals for both a Pfizer enterprise zone and another in the Thames Gateway area were both at advanced stages.

Positive feedback boosts Osborne

THE Chancellor has been given a post-Budget boost with a glowing response from the Institute of Directors (IoD).

A survey of company directors revealed that 58 per cent of those questioned were more confident about the long-term outlook of the economy as a result of the Budget, with only 9 per cent feeling less confident.

Seventy per cent of respondents said they felt the Budget would have a positive impact on the economy, while 55 per cent believed it would have a positive impact on their business.

George Osborne's decision to reduce corporation tax was met with the highest approval rating, with 93 per cent of directors backing the move.

IoD South director Rodger Broad said: "The economic recovery is fragile, so it is good news that business leaders have responded so positively to the Budget.

"While overall there is much to welcome, our region, which alongside London is the only net contributor to the Exchequer, has been overlooked for Enterprise Zone status, which is very disappointing. The Government really must acknowledge that the South East and its businesses also need support if they are to continue to grow and create the jobs that will drive the UK's economic recovery. There is a real risk of strangling the golden goose.

"At a time when confidence could make the difference between recession and recovery, the IoD's Policy Voice survey suggests that the Budget has improved the outlook for business investment. And at a time when international developments are making people worried, the Chancellor has helped steady nerves at home."

• More feedback from the Budget – see inside.

IOD SURVEY FINDINGS

• 58 per cent are more confident about the long-term economic outlook as a result of the Budget, with only 9 per cent feeling less confident.

• 69 per cent believe Osborne is doing a good job running the economy as Chancellor, while 14 per cent do not think that he is doing a good job.

• 70 per cent believe the Budget will have a positive impact on the economy, with only 6 per cent believing it will have a negative impact.

• 55 per cent believe the Budget will have a positive impact on their business, with only 8 per cent believing it will have a negative impact.

• 93 per cent believe reducing the main corporation tax rate to 26p this year and 23p by 2014 will be positive for the economy, with 74 per cent stating it will be positive for their businesses.

• 43 per cent think the increase in the lifetime limit for entrepreneurs' relief from £5million to £10m will be positive for their businesses.

• 48 per cent think the improvement to the capital allowances for short-life assets will be positive for their businesses.

• 81 per cent think increasing the limits for investment under the Enterprise Investment Scheme is a positive step.

• 65 per cent think moving an increase in fuel duty to an increased tax on North Sea oil production when the oil price is high is a positive step.

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

Comment

CHANCELLOR George Osborne came through his second Budget speech relatively unscathed, thanks in main to a savvy petrol-price cut.

Having urged the public to assess him on his growth results this time last year, and having failed to deliver, Osborne had to prepare for the Opposition sharpening their knives ahead of his follow-up House of Commons address.

Osborne was forced to announce revised growth forecasts for 2011, down from 2.1 to 1.7 per cent, and was met with howls of derision from the Opposition benches.

These howls intensified when Osborne moved on to his hard-hitting headline-grabbers, which he preceded with the in-it-together line: "We're all suffering in this recession".

Labour MPs were quick to ask just how much the Chancellor, the heir to the Osborne & Little wallpaper multinational, is suffering.

But to Osborne's credit, he refused to be fazed and delivered the remainder of his Budget, including his fuel-cut ace-up-the sleeve, with purpose and poise.

The following day's headlines focused on the fuel-duty cancellation and 1p fall at the petrol pumps, rather than on Osborne's failure to hit his self-imposed targets or revised growth figures.

Perhaps the Chancellor is this government's Teflon Tony, to whom nothing will stick? Time will tell, but what is clear is that his Budget was largely well received on a number of fronts.

His help for housing, enterprise zones and discounted business rate measures were all welcomed by Kent businesses in last week's Business Week.

With the combined effect of winter snow and Middle East troubles hindering the UK's recovery from recession, Osborne has been given time to get the country back on track.

It is now up to him and his policies to deliver the goods – leading to sustained growth in 2011/12.

If his third Budget figures are as bad as his second, I don't think even a 10p drop in fuel prices could paper over the cracks.

SIMON ROBINSON, Business Editor
Twitter: @KOSbusiness

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Cruising into the new season

THE Port of Dover welcomed the first cruise ship of the year this week. The AIDACara docked in town on Monday before departing for Hamburg, Amsterdam and Antwerp.

Its passengers are among 240,000 cruise enthusiasts set to stop off in the county this year. The cruise industry has boomed in recent years, with routes out of Dover to Europe and the rest of the world.

Holland America Line (HAL) has this year added a luxury Dover to New York service. Port of Dover commercial and marketing head Kate O'Hara said she expected demand to rise further still.

"The beginning of a new season is always an exciting time for us as the cruise terminals are reopened to travelers," she said. "Staff are eager to welcome not only new and returning visitors, but ships and crews on their inaugural visit to our port and town.

"First-class levels of service, excellent facilities and a wide range of cruise holidays available mean Dover will cater for all types of cruise traveller as well as contributing to the growth in European cruising that is winning new converts each season.

"Our repeat customers already know that there's no better way to start a European cruise then sailing into the sunset against a backdrop of the White Cliffs."

Hi-tech answers for a low-carbon future

A SCIENCE company has achieved a world first by developing an eco-friendly, carbon dioxide-capturing recycling technology.

Carbon8 Systems' unique accelerated carbonation process – 10 years in the making – captures CO_2 from landfill gas and also produces aggregate for the construction industry.

The Chatham Maritime-based team's new technology sees methane emitted by decomposing waste burnt in a specially-designed boiler to generate a CO_2-rich gas stream.

This is then used to treat the harmful ash left over from waste incineration to make concrete blocks.

Carbon8's managing director, Dr Paula Carey, said: "Accelerated carbonation has a significant environmental impact in that it prevents a hazardous waste going to landfill, reduces the need for natural aggregate and captures carbon dioxide from the environment, helping to fight climate change. Our technique not only renders polluted waste and soils inert, it is also low-cost and extremely fast – taking just minutes, rather than the days or even weeks required by other methods.

ECO-FRIENDLY: Carbon8 Systems

If widely adopted, these processes could be responsible for capturing more than one million tonnes of waste carbon dioxide and contributing to achieving the UK carbon emission reduction target."

The company has recently licensed the technology for the treatment of incinerator ashes in the UK to a new company, Carbon8 Aggregates, which is securing funding for its first commercial plant.

Exploring

Carbon8 Systems is now exploring opportunities in the US and Canada, where it already has patents, and in Europe and Australia, with assistance from UK Trade and Investment (UKTI).

UKTI South East's Terry Enga said: "The global market for low-carbon goods and services is an ever-growing one, already worth over £3 trillion and expected to exceed £4.5 trillion by 2015.

"The work and research conducted by the team at Carbon8 is truly pioneering.

"With the Government keen to reduce CO_2 emissions and carbon footprint, services like those at Carbon8 are going to be more in demand than ever before."

Smart wristbands coup at Coachella

A CONTRACT to supply hi-tech wristbands for a US music festival has been won by a Tunbridge Wells security firm.

ID&C will provide the radio frequency identification (RFID) wristbands for California's Coachella Festival, taking place this month.

RFID – used in Transport for London's Oyster cards – uses radio waves to exchange data between a reader and an electronic tag attached to an object, in this case a wristband.

ID&C's operations director Steve Dalys said: "Using RFID technology to improve security and reduce admission times at festivals is a concept we've been working on for years. Being able see it in action at a festival like Coachella will be amazing.

"From a security point of view, the microchips can't be copied, making it difficult for pass-backs and counterfeiters.

"For fans, it's a non-invasive way of admittance, making the experience enjoyable from the moment they arrive."

ID&C has developed a durable, waterproof RFID-enabled wristband fitted with its patented Smartlock system, providing Coachella with what the firm calls "the ultimate security and admission solution".

The wristbands will work with hi-tech entrance gates, which read the unique frequency without physical contact.

The system can admit 2,000 fans per gate per hour, reducing staffing costs.

ID&C has supplied security wristbands for major UK festivals including Glastonbury, V and Kent's Hop Farm Festival.

BUSINESS WEEK

online: www.businessforkent.co.uk

ACCOUNTANCY practice A4G has launched a new profit and cashflow improvement service.

The firm, based in West Kingsdown, near Sevenoaks, hopes to help a range of recession-hit companies.

A4G's Steve Brown said: "This new service provides business-owners with the opportunity to examine the recent performance of their business and help to achieve profitable growth and improve their cash position.

"We will be looking to make your business more valuable as profits increase, reduce costs and help you sleep at night, knowing your business can meet its debts when they fall due. We offer 'Improve and Grow' sessions which are part of the service, and all who sign up for it will come away with an action plan of what will need to happen next, with the option of follow-up consultations."

The cost starts at £250, excluding VAT. Visit www.a4gsolutions.co.uk for more information.

THE team behind a successful school meals social enterprise is offering support to others wishing to follow suit.

Whole School Meals Ltd, which provides meals to 21 schools in east Kent, is holding a conference at St Margaret's Bay, near Dover, on Friday, May 13. Chairman Stephanie Hayman, who set the firm up in 2005 with support from local schools, said the model could be copied.

"The social-enterprise model has so much to offer," she said. "We are owned and controlled by our school community through their majority ownership of the company.

"Who better to ensure that we always maintain standards and never lose sight of our purpose? Although we must always be financially viable, we are able to spend more on the things we value – such as training for cooks and their teams, sourcing local produce, maximising use of fresh ingredients. And best of all, our profits go right back to the community."

The conference will be at Pines Calyx. For more information, visit www.wholeschoolmeals.co.uk.

NATWEST has appointed Jason Morgan as regional director of business banking throughout Kent and the Thames Gateway area.

Morgan (above, second left, with his newly-appointed team), will assume responsibility for all new business start-ups and business customers with an annual turnover up to £2 million.

He said: "I'm thrilled to have been given the opportunity to lead such a talented team. Their experience and knowledge will allow us to build on our reputation for supporting business customers."

LEGAL advisers Vertex Law have scooped a second industry award in as many months. The Kings Hill-based firm picked up the Regional M&A Law Firm of the Year prize at the DealMakers Global Awards.

Last month, they were confirmed as the winners of Kent Law Firm of the Year 2010 at the Corporate INTL Magazine Awards.

The firm's Salim Somjee said: "We are delighted our efforts continue to be recognised, both regionally and nationally."

CHRIS GRAYLING

Health and safety 'red tape' review

HEALTH and safety laws will be stripped down under new Government plans to ease the regulatory burdens on business.

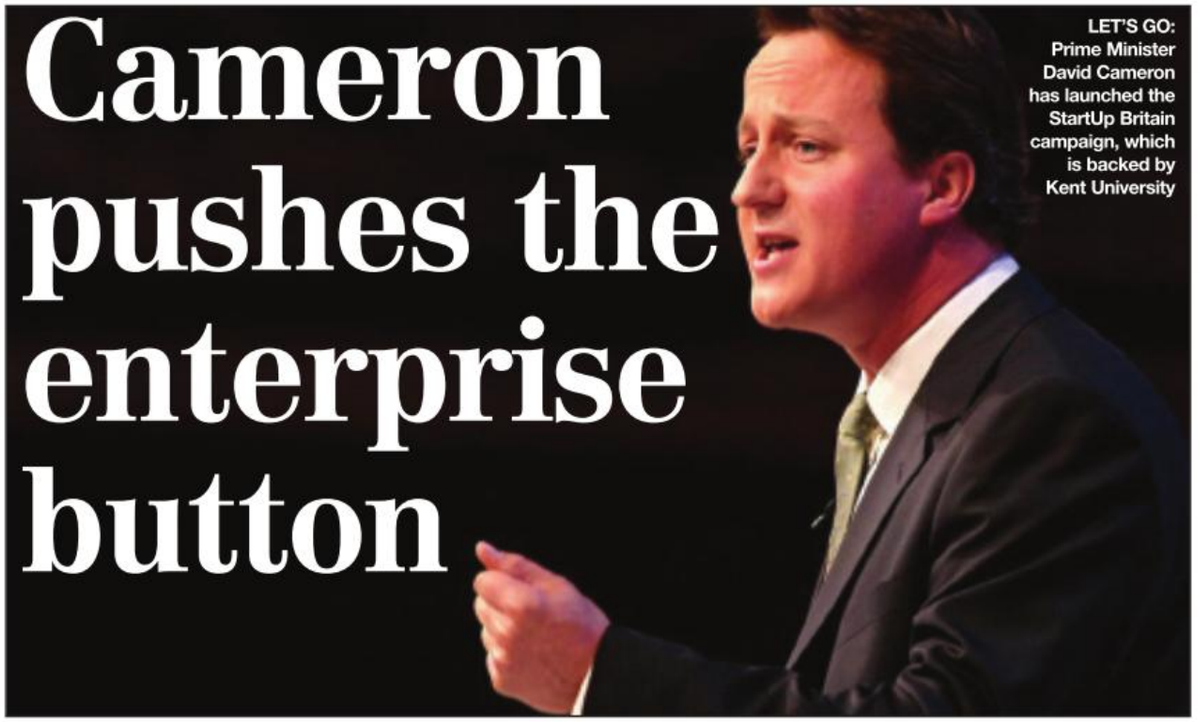
Employment Minister Chris Grayling announced that a full review will be carried out with a view to scrapping any measures that are not needed.

Responsible employers will also no longer face automatic health-and-safety inspections, cutting the number of safety spot-checks by at least a third.

Grayling said: "Of course it is right to protect employees in the workplace, but Britain's health-and-safety culture is also stifling business and holding back growth. The purpose of health-and-safety regulation is to protect people at work, and rightly so. But we need common sense at the heart of the system and these measures will help root out the needless burden of bureaucracy.

"This will help us make Britain a more growth-focused, entrepreneurial nation. By reducing unnecessary red tape we can encourage businesses to come and invest in the UK, creating jobs and opportunities when we need them most."

Cameron pushes the enterprise button



LET'S GO: Prime Minister David Cameron has launched the StartUp Britain campaign, which is backed by Kent University

A GOVERNMENT initiative to support and encourage the next generation of entrepreneurs has been backed by the University of Kent.

By **SIMON ROBINSON**

simon.robinsonl@kosmedia.co.uk

The new Entrepreneur First scheme will see business-minded students given support and guidance with help from leading employers.

It will also pay for the creation of enterprise societies in every university in the country.

The student scheme forms part of the wider StartUp Britain campaign, launched by Prime Minister David Cameron, which will see millions of pounds given to would-be entrepreneurs.

University of Kent enterprise director Carole Barron said: "These schemes will help pave the way for some of our brightest and best graduates to become the next wave of entrepreneurs.

"Universities like Kent are already creating the right climate to encourage entrepreneurial spirit – 91 per cent of higher-education institutions provide extra-curricular support for student and graduate entrepreneurship, and 80 per cent offer awards and modules leading to academic qualifications in enterprise and entrepreneurship.

"This announcement will provide further impetus for graduates to release their potential and learn entrepreneurial skills under the guidance of established employers. Here at the University of Kent we are doing everything possible to ensure that there are as few bureaucratic hurdles as possible to ensure our graduates are given the best opportunities to become successful entrepreneurs."

Unveiling the scheme, Mr Cameron said: "If you've been turning over a good idea for years, now is the time to make something of it.

"If you're working for a big firm but know you could do a better job on your own, now is the time to make the leap. If you're dreaming about starting up the next great British brand, now is the time to make it happen.

"There are thousands of people out there who are entrepreneurs, but they just don't know it yet.

"There are millions of success stories that haven't been written yet. So seize this moment. Take these opportunities. Make it happen and together we can drive our economy forward."

StartUp Britain has so far gathered the backing of international brands including Barclays, BlackBerry, Experian, Intel, Microsoft, McKinsey & Co and Virgin Media.

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Policy 'undermines incentive to work'

NEW policy changes affecting the amount of cash that bankrupts can keep from their earnings will take away their incentive to work and put a greater strain on family life, says one of Kent's leading insolvency practitioners.

Amanda Ireland, who is also a partner at the Sittingbourne office of chartered accountants McCabe Ford Williams, said it was now even more essential that those in financial difficulty should seek expert advice from a licensed insolvency practitioner before deciding to make themselves bankrupt, or allowing creditors to force them into bankruptcy.

"I deal with cases every day where people are making a genuine effort to get their lives back to normal after accumulating large debts. Thankfully, we are able to help the vast majority of them, but these changes in policy remove the incentive to work hard," said Ireland.

The Insolvency Service policy used to be that the Official Receiver would look at the household income of a bankrupt and calculate what he deemed would be required to cover the "reasonable domestic needs" of the bankrupt and their family.

He would then claim between 50 and 75 per cent of any surplus income for the estate, the percentage being dependent on the level of surplus, with the bankrupt being allowed to retain the balance.

AMANDA IRELAND

"If the surplus was £50 or less, the Official Receiver made no claim on the funds," said Ireland.

With effect from December last year, the Official Receiver is reducing the minimum payment he would expect to receive from £50 to £20 and will only allow the bankrupt to retain £10 per month for emergencies for himself and each dependant.

"This onerous change takes away a bankrupt's incentive to work and is going to put even greater strain on family life," she said.

• Amanda Ireland can be phoned on 01795 479111 or by email at amanda.ireland@mfw.co.uk

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At centre stage

KOSmedia BUSINESS WEEK

THE BIG INTERVIEW

Business Week talks to JAMES TILLITT about his work in restoring the much-loved Astor Theatre in Deal back to its former glory. The Astor features strongly in the affections and memories of many residents of the seaside town.
After a career in theatre – and relocation to the Kent coast – US-born Tillitt took the decision to renovate the Astor to allow a venue for local activities and clubs, as well as a top-class performance space. While work continues, the Astor is once again among the premier facilities in east Kent. NICK AMES reports.

REVIVING BREW: James Tillitt in the bar at the Astor Theatre

WHEN James Tillitt, a veteran of the stage, moved to the coastal town of Deal, he was immediately struck by how much affection local people had for its theatre.

At the time, the Astor was owned by Dover District Council and in a bad state of repair.

"In fact, it was falling apart" he said.

"I thought what a terrible waste of such a valuable community resource."

So Tillitt decided to mount a rescue bid and for more than a year the town has seen the venue once again thriving. Classes and sessions are held on a daily basis and high-profile acts have sold out the theatre.

Now it is run as a Community Interest Company – which means any profit gained from ticket sales, the bar or merchandising is immediately ploughed back into running costs and improvement work, which is still ongoing.

No public funding or grants are available for the Astor, so it has to be completely self-sustainable. Tillitt is now artistic director – and said it was thanks to local residents and their enthusiasm that the arts centre was once more a focal point of Deal.

"It quickly became apparent that the Astor holds a very special place in the hearts of a lot of people who live in the town," he said.

"Almost everyone who lives locally has some special memory or connection with the place.

"I have had little old ladies come up to me and say they remember attending ballet classes in the 1950s.

"Then there are those who remember the 1970s and the disco nights. They might remember their first kiss, or their first drink.

"One man told me how he met his wife at the theatre."

But bringing the Astor back to former glories represented a major challenge and called on a mixture of theatrical know-how and business acumen on the part of Tillitt and those who supported his aims and objectives.

"I first bought a home in Deal 11 years ago," he said. "It was initially a place for the weekend. I was a 'down from London' type.

"But in 2006 I came here permanently and it was then I started to realise how important the theatre was.

"It wasn't being used very much at all and was, I have to say, extremely badly managed.

"Dover District Council were the owners and so I set about seeing how I could rescue it. The first stage was to get hold of the lease and I approached some like-minded people to come and work alongside me.

"I went to Dover [council] and said I would like to take on the theatre and it did take a

BUSINESS WEEK

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in Astor Theatre rebirth

while to persuade them, but we were awarded the lease in September 2008."

A group called Deal Arts Management, with Tillitt one of the prime movers, now had control of the Astor, subject to terms and conditions on how they went ahead with development work insisted on by councillors.

"Our first stage was to conduct a survey and we soon discovered the whole place needed to be rewired," said Tillitt.

"The old boiler had to be condemned and the basement was flooded. In fact, the whole place was barely fit to be used. So our first job was to get it to a stage where it was of a standard that meant the public could actually come inside."

So far about £130,000 has been spent on the theatre, but there is still some work to be done and fund-raising activities continue. There is a bucket for donations on the bar.

"We were very grateful for the help we received," said Tillitt. "About half the money we have spent up until now came in the form of grants from Dover District Council, Deal Town Council and Kent County Council.

"We raised our own funds through staging events and applying to grant-giving bodies.

"We received a very nice boost in the form of an anonymous donation of £20,000 from an individual and after seven months of restoration work we were able to open our doors to paying customers, in January 2010.

"We had a whole programme of events which ran right through until July of that year.

"The following month we closed down in order to finish off our work. This included repainting, relaying the floors and introducing new lighting."

GOOD SIGN: The Astor is thriving

Tillitt said he felt it was important that the Astor was used as much as possible, so activities take place in the day involving local groups, as well as performances of an evening.

"We have a huge range of things going on here and there really is something for everyone," he said.

"There are adult education classes, creative-writing courses, life drawing, youth theatre, a rock choir and a Gilbert and Sullivan society.

"We have a close association with a music label, Smugglers Records, and they stage a regular folk evening.

"One event that always sells out is the Private Widdle Social Club, an evening of entertainment which takes its name from one of the characters played in a Carry On film by Charles Hawtrey, a one-time Deal resident.

"There are also local bands performing, with Raw Deal – heavy metal and punk – a particularly popular night.

"We have ensured that we have booked some big bands. Nine Below Zero have played here, so have The Strawbs, The Blockheads, Dr Feelgood and Wishbone Ash. Hazel O'Connor is on this weekend [Saturday, April 2].

"Another event we are introducing is Talking Books, which involves an author speaking about his, or her, work to an audience.

"Simon Booker, Deborah Moggach and Melanie McGrath, who are all local writers, are set to take part, as are The History Girls, three women authors who specialise in historical fiction. They will be explaining how to take real people from the past and make a fictional story about them.

"We also work alongside Canterbury Christ Church University. Music students put on performances to gain experience of playing in front of an audience.

"The theatre holds 150 if we put in rows of seats. Cabaret-style seating, which includes tables, means 120 people can be accommodated, while if it's standing room only, capacity is 350.

"Our latest project has been an arts space and bar which has just opened with a photographic exhibition."

Tillitt feels that the Astor is now back firmly in its previous place, as a major part of a town with a growing arts scene and with many writers, painters, photographers and musicians among its residents.

"It has become a focal point for the community once again," he said. "Everyone here has rallied round and been behind what we have done and they have all been a part of it.

"I'm proud of what we have achieved and to have this sort of arts centre in a town the size of Deal and with the support of all the community is a rare thing. It is very gratifying, but the whole project has been a real challenge to get where we are now, to say the least."

DEAL-MAKER: James Tillitt moved to the coastal town in 2006

JAMES TILLITT'S CV

- Brought up in the city of Minneapolis, US, and came to Britain in 1975 to attend the Rose Bruford drama school in Sidcup
- Spent 15 years working as an actor, mainly in musical theatre. Productions included Jesus Christ Superstar and Fiddler On The Roof. Performed on the London stage and in touring productions
- In the 1980s film Hellbound: Hellraiser 2, he plays the part of a police officer who discovers dead bodies in a house
- Set up production companies and was involved in writing and directing
- Plays staged in schools, where companies and charities have commissioned Tillitt to write scripts which put across a particular message in a way that is immediately understandable to young people. One, called Bottlebusters, on recycling and was performed throughout the UK for 13 years
- Has held post of general manager of Kent Opera

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To be held at local hotels

High praise as restored hotel's Regency charm pleases minister

A RESTORED seafront hotel has been relaunched with the help of the Government's tourism minister.

John Penrose was on hand to open the 81-bed Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa.

The tourism and heritage chief paid tribute to owner Leaf Hotels for its work in restoring the building to its Regency best.

"This is a listed building and it has been sensitively and carefully renovated. It is clear you have honoured the heritage and history of this fine old building," he said.

"At the same time you have managed to create what is clearly going to be one of the premier hotels in the area.

"This is a facility Dover and Kent will be proud of. I wish we had more people of vision in our tourism industry.

By **SIMON ROBINSON**

simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

"We need people like Leaf Hotels, we need more people who are prepared to do precisely what you have achieved here."

The hotel, formerly known as The Churchill, caters for weddings, meetings and conferences, plus theme nights and fine-dining parties, private dining and other functions.

General manager David Otteson said: "With views across the beach and harbour to the Channel and beyond, we have an unrivalled location close to ferry and cruise terminals and Dover marina. The hotel is full of character and charm and ideal for business and leisure."

Leaf Hotels directors Mr Rajamenon, Mr Rajaseelan and Mr Rajakanthan said they had been overwhelmed by messages of support at the hotel's opening.

FINE OUTLOOK: Tourism minister John Penrose enjoys the view from the balcony after opening the Best Western Dover Marina Hotel and Spa. INSET: With Leaf Hotels directors

Mr Rajamenon said: "Dover is the gateway to Britain and that is why it is so important the town has high-quality tourist attractions and hotels, so visitors are given a good reason to stop and enjoy what the area has to offer.

"We are keen to play our part in that and want other people involved in the tourist industry in the area to work more closely together so we do not miss out on the benefits of international tourism.

Mr Rajaseelan said: "The town deserves to have the best hotels and we believe huge benefits will come from this project.

"We want it to become the centre of the community. We also want local businesses to see the Dover Marina Hotel and Spa as the place to come for a meeting or a conference, to meet with clients and associates."

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Awards take some beating

KENT Invicta Chamber of Commerce has introduced a rhythmical feature into its annual awards – an audience-participation drumming session.

Finalists were invited to add to the beat laid down by the Drum Café African drumming group.

A spokesman said: "The group revealed that under the tables was a drum for each person at the table.

"Everybody joined in with enthusiasm and, led and encouraged by the drummers, soon picked up basic skills they never knew they had."

The top award on the night, business of the year, went to Bedfont Scientific, with Reeves & Co and Mather & Smith named as finalists.

Most promising new business was Recruitment Genius; and entrepreneur of the year went to Dan Maudhub, of the Wonderful Creative Agency.

Chamber chairwoman Jo James said: "I hope everybody enjoyed themselves – I certainly did. The quality and quantity of applications received each year goes to show what an entrepreneurial county we work in."

The awards cermony was held at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge.

KENT INVICTA

Chamber of Commerce Awards winners

- Excellence In Customer Service
Winner: D & D Auto Repairs
Finalist: Woodley Coles LLP
Finalist: Nova IT Solutions
- Excellence In People Development
Winner: Medway Safety
Finalist: Secure Engineering
Finalist: Medash Signs
- Most Promising New Business
Winner: Recruitment Genius
Finalist: Sleeping Giant Media
Finalist: Nova IT Solutions
- Entrepreneur of the Year
Winner: Dan Maudhub – Wonderful Creative Agency
Finalist: Wayne Hodgson – Red Eagle
Finalist: Steve Gerring – Medway Safety
- Business of the Year
Winner: Bedfont Scientific
Finalist: Reeves & Co LLP
Finalist: Mather & Smith

Striking the right balance with 'impressive' Budget

By **SIMON ROBINSON**

simon.robinson@kosmedia.co.uk

CHANCELLOR George Osborne's second Budget has been welcomed by Kent Science Park, with businesses particularly impressed by a £100 million UK science-sector funding pot.

James Speck, director at the Sittingbourne park, said the cash would help support the UK's scientific firms and make them more competitive against their overseas peers.

Subsidiary measures such as the reduction in corporation tax were also praised.

Speck said: "It's good to see the Government is committed to UK science. The £100 million of capital spending announced is a welcome boost for the scientific sector at a time when money is hard come by.

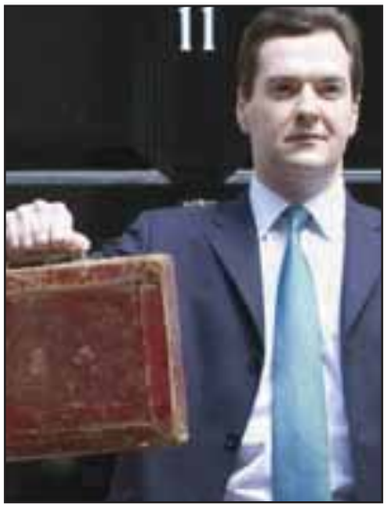
Priority

"However, the rest of the world, and in particular China and Germany, continue to invest heavily in science and it's important that, as the deficit is reduced, R&D spending remains a Government priority to ensure that we do not fall behind our competitors.

"The new research and development tax credit proposal and increases to tax credit will be another boost for the UK.

"I believe the Chancellor is striking a good balance between managing the personal hardships that many people are feeling because of the spending cuts and supporting business in a way that will establish the framework for economic recovery.

"The reduction in corporation tax by 2 rather than 1 per cent is a welcome surprise. It sends a signal to the world that the UK is a good place to come and do business and I applaud the Chancellor's efforts to create the most competitive tax system in the G20.



CHANCELLOR: £100m capital spending pot

JAMES SPECK: Welcome boost for science

Picture: KENT SCIENCE PARK

"The freezing of new regulations for start-ups and businesses employing fewer than 10 people for the next three years is good news.

"I know from speaking to our tenants that this will help to take some of the pressure off by minimising the amount of red tape they encounter and letting them get on with expanding their business."

Crowe Clark Whitehall tax partner Simon Warne was also impressed with the Budget.

"Most companies will view the Budget as business-friendly thanks to the decision to cut corporation tax," he said.

"The measures to give earlier relief for capital expenditure via the short-life asset regime will be welcomed by hard-pressed business-owners. The increased R&D relief will focus business minds on innovation, as will the patent box regime, expected to apply a 10 per cent rate of corporation tax on income from patents from April 2013," he said.

"Kent appears to have missed out on the first of the newly-created enterprise zones, although we may yet benefit."

The Marketing Eye's managing director, Neil Edwards, was wary of rising inflation and the expected rise in interest rates.

"George Osborne is saying a lot of the things that small businesses want to hear. Making Britain the best place to start up, finance and grow a small business has to be the right aim," he said.

"However, service businesses in the South East never seem to get a mention and we need a helping hand, too.

"For our business to grow, we need confidence in the economy and people willing to invest in their businesses.

"Despite Osborne talking about 'economic stability', there is still a lot of uncertainty out there. Rising inflation rates and threats of increases in interest rates don't help.

"In the absence of confidence, we need our costs held down and the ability to leave as much profit in the business as we can to re-invest – not paying it all out in tax."

Creaseys partner Richard Holme said: "We were encouraged to learn that corporation tax is to be cut by 2 per cent, rather than the 1 per cent originally announced, and then cut to 23 per cent by 2014.

Highlight

"This can only be good news for business and will, hopefully, encourage investment."

Another key highlight is that investments under the enterprise investment scheme will attract tax relief of 30 per cent.

"This is a good step in the right direction to getting people to invest in small and growing business. This is essential to kick-start the economy and will also encourage serial entrepreneurs to keep investing. Investment is key to success.

"As a firm which works closely with a number of charities, we were encouraged by the announcement of a 10 per cent inheritance tax discount for those leaving 10 per cent of their estate to charity.

"The charity sector is suffering at the moment, so anything that can be done to give it a boost is good news.

"It's also positive for people who wish to leave part of their estate to charity."

Access even more areas with software firm's £50m deal

SOFTWARE provider Access UK is gearing up for a period of rapid expansion after securing a £50 million deal with growth investor Lyceum Capital.

The established firm – which has nine offices across the UK, including its HR and payroll arm in Canterbury – will use the huge sum to grow the business, buy out complementary firms and continue product development.

Chief executive Chris Bayne, left, said: "It's fitting that on the 20th anniversary of Access's incorporation we've agreed a deal which marks a significant step change in the speed and scale of the business's expansion and secured the backing of an investment partner with an outstanding track record of generating sustainable growth.

"We'll be focused on the continued development of our market-leading product and service portfolio through a combination of in-house development and the targeted acquisition of complementary solutions and will be looking to further develop our offering across the mid-market space."

Jeremy Hand, who led the deal for Lyceum Capital, said: "Access is a highly attractive company with a successful operating model, proven management team and a strong position in the rapidly growing business segment of the software market. This deal will give the business the funding and additional insight and expertise to broaden its services and penetrate further into key vertical industries."

Access is a software, solutions and consultancy house that provides a full range of enterprise-resource-planning software and services, with a particular focus on financial management systems and human-capital management solutions.

It serves a 5,000-strong mid-market client base spread across a range of sectors and includes Canterbury College, the King's School and Cripps Harries Hall LLP. Set up in 1991, Access has grown to become a £28m turnover business. The firm has nine offices across the UK and Ireland and employs more than 300 people.

NEXT WEEK: Business Week Spotlight will focus on Investment and Funding

The life of Riley

Pictures; ADY KERRY

PROSPECT: Spinner Adam Riley hopes to break into Kent's first-team this summer

With James Tredwell's stock rising as an international cricketer, Kent's spinning berth could be filled this summer by teenage tweaker Adam Riley. GLENN PEARSON met up with the county's talented off-spinner

ADAM Riley's inclusion in Kent's 12-man party which went to Dubai for pre-season training leaves little doubt as to where he fits in the county squad.

Having only joined Kent at the age of 16 after impressing for Kent League Premier club Bexley, he dominated at under-17 level before enrolling on the Academy system. In his first full season with the second-team last year, the 18-year-old ended up as Kent's leading wicket-taker in the county championship and quite often the 'go-to man' in pressure situations.

Understudy

Kent clearly hold him in high regard. They released experienced left-arm spinner Rob Ferley towards the end of last season and gave Riley his first professional contract during the winter. Now as understudy to James Tredwell, Riley begins a similar path to the England off-spinner, who spent several years learning from Min Patel before breaking into the side and claiming the spinning berth for his own.

Tredwell is the county's number one spinner, but his displays in the World Cup mean there is every chance he could be called away by England for this summer's campaign against Sri Lanka and India. It represents an opportunity for former Beths Grammar School boy Riley, who Kent are pinning their future hopes on to take over as Tredwell's successor.

A surprise inclusion in the 12 that went to Dubai, the experience of being thrown in at the deep end wasn't one that fazed the teenage spinner.

"With Treddy away, I guess I'm the next spinner and I was pleased to go to Dubai," he said. "It was a good experience, I can't say I was expecting it having been on the staff for about two weeks and then getting the call up; it gave me a real buzz.

"It was great being around the senior pros, like Martin van Jaarsveld and Rob Key, and gave me a chance to bowl at them every day. I felt I definitely improved just by bowling at them, they are really good players of spin, so it was a good experience for me."

At just over 6ft 2ins, Riley isn't your typical spinner. A slow approach to the wicket is followed by a high arm action that makes full use of his height. Included in the Kent side that drew with Lancashire in a pre-season practice game this week, he looked at home bowling against Division One batsmen, but it was his nagging control that was most impressive. A haul of 3 for 30, which included the vastly experienced Mark Chilton, underlined that and while he is unlikely to feature for the first instalment of the summer, breaking into the side, whether it be in Twenty20 or CB 40, is his main objective.

"I'm happy with the way I bowled and the main thing was to come out of the game with some overs under my belt with the first-team and I'm pretty happy with how it went," he said. "My aim is to play first-team cricket but I know Treddy is the number one spinner and has been for the past five or six years and rightly so; you only have to look at what he did in the World Cup.

Opportunity

"I have to just keep taking wickets and performing in the second-team and hopefully I will get my opportunity in one format or the other and then it's about taking it."

Kent coach Simon Willis has watched Riley's meteoric rise through the system and says the teenager's ability to be effective on wickets that do not offer a great deal of spin is what has made him stand out.

"He finds a way of getting the job done," he said. "He has his bad days like everybody else, but he does not have to be playing on a 'turner' for him to get wickets.

"He never shies away from a challenge and that's one of the impressive things about him.

"He would not see himself as an understudy to James Tredwell, instead he will be looking at getting into the first-team as quickly as possible.

"Treddy himself benefited from playing under Min Patel and he will naturally pass on things to Adam to help him progress. We have been very lucky that we have been able to have Min and Darren Scott, both former county spinners, working with him and helping him develop."

Mahmood set to play in season opener

KENT begin their LV= County Championship opener at Essex on Friday with Sam Northeast likely to bat at number three, while all-rounder Azhar Mahmood could make a rare appearance to bolster the seam attack.

Northeast batted at three in a two-day practice game against Lancashire at Beckenham this week, with Geraint Jones dropping down to number five.

That is likely to be the only change to the top seven that played the majority of last season, while Mahmood, on a limited overs contract at Kent, could be persuaded to play if it's felt Robbie Joseph isn't ready in time.

Director of cricket Paul Farbrace said: "As it stands at the moment [Mahmood] has a chance of playing at Chelmsford, but no better than a chance. The first one-day game isn't until May 1 so we have got to see where he gets to when it comes to the middle of next week."

RARE OUTING: Azhar Mahmood could play in the championship game at Essex, while Sam Northeast is likely to bat at three

The county put their preparations in Dubai to good use in a pre-season warm-up against Lancashire this week, with several players hitting their straps early on.

Joe Denly hit 115 to end any doubts that he might drop down the order this season, while Rob Key, Martin van Jaarsveld, Darren Stevens and Northeast all got some time out in the middle.

Matt Coles looks to have added a yard of pace over the winter, while Joseph, still naturally tentative after missing almost a whole season of cricket with a shouder injury, slowly worked his way back to fitness.

The players will get another chance to get some practice ahead of Friday's championship game at Chelmsford, when they play a one-day game against Sussex at Canterbury on Tuesday. James Tredwell, back from the World Cup with England, will join the squad as Kent look to fine tune their preparations which have gained momentum following their return from a week-long training camp in Dubai.

Farbrace believes his squad are looking good for the start of the season and said the trip was invaluable, not only for the cricketing experience, but the fact the squad were able to spend some time together before the start of the summer.

"There was a real feel good factor off the back of that and they took that into the practice game at Beckenham," he said.

"I think everyone has come back with a lot of confidence and it was also nice to have the group together for that length of time. There was a lot of cricket talk in the evenings and on the bus to and from practice, which is what you want. That was a huge bonus."

Sore back's proving a pain for Nel

PAIN RELIEF: Dewald Nel (left) and Robbie Joseph (right) are aiming to return from long-term injuries

SCOTTISH seamer Dewald Nel should be fit to return to action by the end of the month after having an injection in his troublesome back.

The 30-year-old returned from the pre-season camp in Dubai with a sore back and had an injection on Tuesday as a precautionary measure. It's likely to keep him out for up to four weeks, which means he should be available for the first Clydesdale Bank 40 game of the season against Worcestershire on May 1.

The South African born Scotland international has had an injury-plagued start to his Kent career, missing the majority of last summer with a back injury he picked up in pre-season. He showed why the county signed him with a nine-wicket match haul in the final county championship game against Yorkshire, but this latest setback will be a frustration not only for the player, but the club who are desperately low on bowling resources.

Kent physio Nimmo Reid said: "He was able to bowl all his sessions in Dubai but had some lower back pain midway through the week. On the basis that he still had some pain, we thought we would try and get it knocked on the head. It's better he misses a bit of pre-season and first couple of games rather than a bigger chunk of the season."

Left-arm seamer Ashley Shaw is also working his way back to fitness after a shin problem, and stepped up his bowling work-load in the nets at St Lawrence this week.

Fellow fast bowler Robbie Joseph played in the two-day practice match against Lancashire this week and was pain free, and Reid said the seamer now needs time out in the middle.

He said: "RJ just needs to bowl, he needs some time in the middle. People forget he had his first surgery and then a second operation in August last year and that's not that long ago. He still needs to be careful in terms of how much he does, but he is infinitely better off than he was this time last year."

KENT'S financial results will be top of the agenda at the club's Annual General Meeting at 7pm on Tuesday. See next week's paper for details.

Plotting best course to Open glory

With just over three months until Royal St George's plays host to the Open Championship, sports reporter **DAVID PRITCHARD** and PGA professional Chris Aked braved the elements to see what challenges await the world's top golfers and judge how the Sandwich course is shaping up

COURSE WORK: (l-r) Chris Aked and David Pritchard on the first tee at Royal St George's

STANDING on the first tee, you can almost hear the starter call your name: "On the tee from England, David Pritchard." Cue a ripple of applause followed by a hushed silence as the packed grandstands await the sweet 'ping' as your driver sends the ball soaring into the east Kent sky.

The fantasy continues with the ball splitting the fairway, leaving a relatively simple approach to the green and a birdie chance.

Fortunately for the greenkeepers at Royal St George's, a golf club never came near my hands on our visit to the course in Sandwich this week. All the playing is done by Chris Aked, a professional based at Royal Blackheath, who has teamed up with Archant KOS Media to provide an expert's view on the Open, which begins on July 14. The 27-year-old crashed his tee shot away down the first, drawing admiring glances from the three-ball due off behind us – tourists who had headed straight to the course after flying overnight from Hong Kong.

Prestigious

"I'd take that in July, I think my legs would probably be like jelly," said Aked, who has a chance of testing out the prediction for real after being accepted into regional qualifying.

For the moment there is nothing to suggest the world's best players will be battling it out for the most prestigious title in golf right here in a few weeks' time.

We are fortunate to look round during the calm before the storm. It will not stay untouched for long and construction on the spectator grandstands is due to begin later this month. Television towers, the media centre and the tented village will all follow to briefly transform it into a global sporting venue.

Heading off down the first hole the most striking feature of the course is its bleakness. Apart from the dunes which ripple across the course towards the bay there are few reference points, which makes judging distance difficult.

CRATER ESCAPE: Chris tries to find relief from the massive 'Hell's bunker' on the fourth

COUNTDOWN TO THE OPEN

102 DAYS When Padraig Harrington successfully defended his title at Royal Birkdale in 2008 he became the first European to win back-to-back Opens since James Braid 102 years earlier

Away from the relatively sheltered area around the clubhouse, the challenge posed by the wind also becomes immediately obvious.

Our visit is accompanied by steady rain and a strong breeze, which will constantly interfere with the players as they plot their way round. Holes like the wonderful par-three sixth, with the dunes encircling the green act like a natural amphitheatre, which makes playing directly into the wind a real struggle.

Even when it is behind you, such as the long par-four 13th where you head towards the rapidly redeveloping old clubhouse at neighbouring Prince's, it becomes a hindrance when approaching the green.

Suddenly the mental challenge of links golf, which rewards imagination in shot selection unlike any other type of course, is clear. Even when you split the fairway nothing can be taken for granted. The undulating nature of Open host courses means even a perfectly hit drive can hit a bump and find an awkward slope, or veer off into the rough.

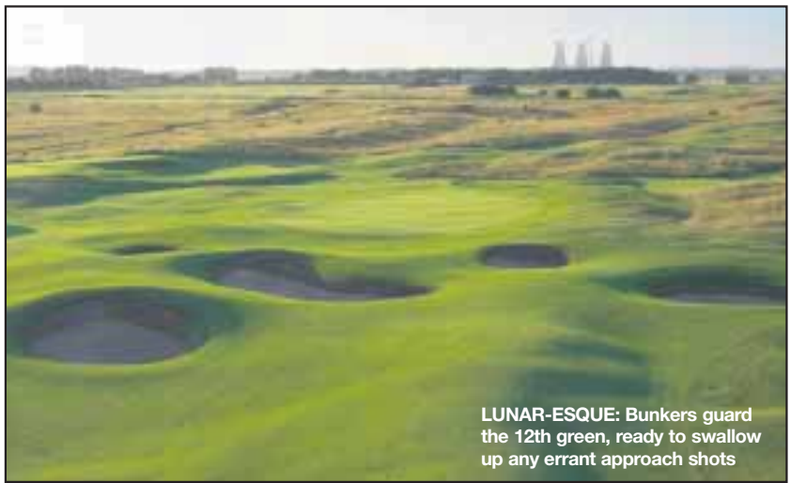
Although the course will look strikingly different come July when the army of spectators arrive, parts of it are recognisable from previous Opens. The majority are from moments of disaster, instantly becoming tombs to title hopes.

Thomas Bjorn provided the signature moment of the tournament's last visit, in 2003. With three holes to play the Dane led by two strokes, but his tee shot at the par-three found a greenside bunker. Even watching a replay now it is painful, as his first two attempts fall short on the green and roll cruelly back into the sand.

It was a pivotal moment in handing Ben Curtis the title, but standing in the bunker now the slope looks so much more severe than it did on television. Aked attempted to follow in Bjorn's footsteps but, typically, hit his bunker shot to within a foot of where the pin was eight years ago.

It is almost guaranteed another part of the course will become the venue for a similar collapse in July. For the very lucky it will be right in front of their seat, but whatever happens Royal St George's looks set to be the perfect host.

Now if you'll excuse me I've got a fantasy to finish – a two-footer at the last and that Claret Jug will be all mine.



LUNAR-ESQUE: Bunkers guard the 12th green, ready to swallow up any errant approach shots

BIG HITTER: Chris has to first clear huge bunkers before finding the fairway on the fourth

ROYAL ST GEORGE'S

A professional's view by **CHRIS AKED**

TO ASSIST our build-up to the Open Championship in July, Archant KOS Media has teamed up with a Kent-based professional to provide an expert's view on the tournament.

Having played Royal St George's several times, Royal Blackheath's Chris Aked is well placed to offer his opinion on the subtle changes made to the course in preparation, and what sort of tournament it may turn out to be:

"The course is looking like it will be in great shape. The new bunkers are already starting to settle in and take hold so I can only imagine after a few months of sun they will be in a really good condition.

"I think the set-up of the course looks good, we played it in pretty challenging conditions so you'd like to think with a mix of that and a bit of sun to dry the course out it will be a really good test.

"I don't think wholesale change was necessary, but there's definitely been some improvements made. One or two of the bunkers now look a little more severe in places and they all look nice and uniform as well where the faces have been riveted. With a few new tees here and there it's all added to the overall appeal of the course, it's been evolution rather than revolution, which is good.

"A lot of the other Open courses will have a certain way of playing which will bring a particular type of player into contention - whether they're long off the tee, or shape the ball a certain way.

"I don't think anyone will run away with it, I'd be surprised if that was the case. There is a nice balance of holes which keep the field together and keep the championship going until the Sunday night.

"The course is longer than last time but I don't think that necessarily means a really powerful hitter is going to win. You've got to be able to control your ball and honestly I think this will play into the hands of someone who is above all accurate.

"It almost goes without saying that to win you're also going to have to be red hot around the greens. If you have a hot putter that's almost half the battle."

TIM HARVEY has teamed up with Archant KOS Media ahead of the new motorsport season and you can read his EXCLUSIVE column in our newspapers. As a veteran of the British Touring Car Championship, Harvey will offer his take on the BTCC class of 2011 as well as describing his quest to retain the Porsche Carrera Cup GB crown

Harvey keen to make fast start on home circuit

TIM Harvey begins the defence of his Porsche Carrera Cup GB title this weekend, as he completes his return to Motorbase Performance at Brands Hatch.

The 49-year-old is one of five drivers representing the Wrotham-based team in the championship and he will again be the man to beat, although team-mate Michael Caine is expected to push him close.

Meanwhile, Harvey, who was brought up in Sevenoaks and went to school in Tonbridge, says the Carrera Cup grid is significantly stronger than last season, when he was driving for Redline Racing.

He said: "It's going to be very close because there are eight or 10 drivers who could win races. It's one of those things where you could be on pole for one race and then qualify sixth for the next."

Harvey grew up watching racing at Brands Hatch and is keen for Motorbase to make a strong start to the new season in front of their home crowd.

He said: "I'm experienced enough to know you can never have enough testing, but once the racing starts, the gamesmanship stops. It's nice to get racing again, because it's real."

Qualifying for the Carrera Cup takes place on Saturday morning with the first race at 5.45pm and the second following on Sunday at 1.15pm.

Brands in gear for the start of Touring season

Thousands to descend upon circuit for first meet of series

By **DAVID PRITCHARD**

MOTORSPORT fans will flock to Brands Hatch this weekend as the hugely popular British Touring Car Championship (BTCC) season roars into life.

An estimated 30,000 spectators are expected for the first big event in the West Kingsdown circuit's calendar. On the menu will be the opening three rounds of the BTCC season, fought out on the 1.2-mile Indy layout.

They will be hoping for a repeat of the drama seen in the series' last visit in October, when four drivers went into the finale with a chance of winning the drivers' title.

Jason Plato came out on top to win his second BTCC crown and the Silverline Chevrolet driver is delighted to be back.

He said: "Brands Hatch is a circuit that's got sporting drama written all over it. Overtaking can be tricky so there are always fraught moments – it's not uncommon for cars to enter corners three abreast and to see a bit of paint being traded.

"The public want their motor racing to be full of entertainment and at Brands with the BTCC, they'll get it."

There should be local interest at the front end of the field, where Motorbase will be looking to hit the ground running after a busy winter. The team, based a few miles away in Wrotham, are expected to challenge for both individual and team honours this season after investing heavily in switching from BMW 320s to the Ford Focuses which won the independents' title last season.

Mat Jackson will be hoping to emulate his race win at Brands last May and will be joined by new team-mate Liam Griffin, who is making his debut in the BTCC.

Competing as Airwaves Racing in the championship, the team put down an early marker in pre-season testing in mid-March, with Jackson posting the fifth fastest time at Silverstone.

Motorbase owner David Bartrum said: "We've had a few big weekends at Brands Hatch, but this certainly feels like the biggest. It always feels a big weekend as it is our home circuit, but this year feels quite special indeed.

Pictures: NICK DUNGAN

POLE POSITION: British Touring Car Championship season kicks off at Brands Hatch

HOME CIRCUIT: Motorbase Performance are out to impress their Kent supporters

"I'm happy with the testing we've done. It's not all about lap times, it's about learning the car and using the testing time wisely. It seems as though the winter has gone on forever so we are really looking forward to Brands Hatch."

The surprise package could be provided by Pembury's Shaun Hollamby, whose AmD Milltek Racing team stunned the paddock by recruiting rising star Tom Onslow-Cole. The VW Golf has undergone major redevelopment during the close season and in the hands of Onslow-Cole, who won four races last season, they could be contenders.

A busy timetable also includes several support races. James Dixon, from Stockbury, should challenge for top honours in the Renault Clio Cup, where he will drive alongside Nicolas Hamilton, brother of Formula 1 star Lewis, who is expected to attend this weekend's meeting.

Motorbase have five cars in the Porsche Carrera Cup, while Goudhurst teenager Jake Hill goes in the newly-created Ginetta GT Supercup.

The action on Sunday begins at 10.20am ahead of the opening BTCC race at 11.45am.

TOURING ROOKIE: Tony Gilham

Debutant Gilham ready for step up

THIS weekend's meeting will be a leap into the unknown on many levels for debutant Tony Gilham.

The 31-year-old spent most of the winter planning for a fourth season in the Porsche Carrera Cup, but problems with ordering a new car saw him switch to the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC).

Instead the Dartford racer signed for 888 Racing in February, giving him little time to prepare for the new series. He will arrive at Brands having sat in the distinctively decorated Vauxhall Vectra just once, at the BTCC's media day at Silverstone last month.

He said: "I'm excited, nervous, everything you can imagine really. It will be a steep learning curve but it should be good, especially in front of a home crowd. Driving in the BTCC has always been an ambition for me and it's a dream just to be on the grid. Being successful will be the next aim, but I'm looking forward to it massively."

Sky's the limit for boxing in Kent, says Maloney

Pictures: ADY KERRY

FIGHT NIGHT: After the success of the recent show at Medway Park, Frank Maloney (right) is staging a British title fight at the venue, to be televised by Sky Sports

BOXING promoter Frank Maloney believes live television coverage could become a regular fixture in Kent after Sky Sports confirmed they will screen the next Medway Park show in May, ***writes Steve Tervet.***

Sam Webb's British light middleweight title fight against Prince Arron will top the bill on May 13, with undefeated Chatham heavyweight Tom Dallas also confirmed for the show.

Sky approved Medway Park as a suitable venue on Wednesday and Maloney underlined how significant their presence could be in putting the county firmly on the boxing map.

"Without Sky Sports, these shows can't happen," he said. "I've been speaking to the Sky director and they're very happy because it's a new venue for them. It's good because it highlights Kent and it shows the Medway towns are able to compete with Manchester, Birmingham and London.

"The venue can hold up to 2,200 so there's more of a chance to have a good atmosphere. Boxing's all about the atmosphere; it's like the theatre with blood.

"This is the acid test, though. If people turn up and support it, we'll be back, and if they don't, the fighters will be back on the road to London."

Maloney's promotions company is based in Chislehurst, but he admitted he had only recently been made aware of the potential to host big shows at Medway Park.

As Dallas' promoter, Maloney was in attendance as the 25-year-old knocked out Gabor Farkas at last month's Battle of Medway show in the same venue and he said everything about the evening had impressed him.

"I knew about Black Lion [now renamed Medway Park] but I didn't realise it had been modernised and revamped," he said. "Obviously, we're a Kent promotions company, but we've never promoted in Kent; we've never even promoted in east London.

"I came along to look at the venue and with Tom Dallas being a local boy, it was very interesting to me. If you've got a heavyweight and you can put him in his own area, that really helps.

"What impressed me was that people sat through the whole show. Normally, people come and go, but these are real sports fans and I like that."

Webb and Dallas will be joined on the bill by Swanley welterweight Martin Welsh – taking on Brian Rose for the English light middleweight title – and Erith's Lewis Pettitt.

Skipper Fuller praise for Hess

Captain says boss deserves credit for Gills' progress during second reign

By DAVID PRITCHARD

GILLINGHAM skipper Barry Fuller has praised Andy Hessenthaler for risking his reputation at the club by returning for a second stint as manager last summer.

With six games remaining and the Gills in contention for promotion from League Two, the decision to come back to Priestfield now looks a good one for the 45-year-old.

It was not the case earlier on this season, as the optimism surrounding Hessenthaler's appointment quickly evaporated by a dreadful run of results.

An FA Cup defeat at home to former club Dover Athletic in November marked the low point. With the Gills also third bottom in League Two a section of the supporters, who had lobbied vocally for Hessenthaler to succeed Mark Stimson, turned on him.

An upsurge in form since then has transformed the mood and Fuller believes most of the credit should go to Hessenthaler.

"When the gaffer came back there was a lot of pressure on his shoulders," he said. "It was a massive step. He could've stayed a legend among the fans, but he believed he still had unfinished business at the club.

"The pressure was on him to take us straight back up and with the start we had he got a lot of stick, but he's a strong character and has got us mentally strong. He loves Gillingham so much that he couldn't turn it down and he's got us back now to where we should've been at the start of the season."

While automatic promotion remains a possibility, the play-offs look the more likely route if Gillingham are going to bounce straight back into League One.

Fuller is one of six first-team regulars who started the final two seasons ago, when Gillingham beat Shrewsbury 1-0 at Wembley.

The 26-year-old is confident the previous experience will stand the team in good stead if they are faced with another play-off campaign.

He said: "Not many players get to the play-offs, but we have plenty in the squad. I think that will count in our favour if it comes to that.

"If I'm honest I think the season will come down to the wire again. This is the time when we need to work our hardest, show the sort of character we have been in the last few weeks and be composed."

JOB WELL DONE: Barry Fuller says Andy Hessenthaler (left) has proved himself worthy of his second reign as Gills boss
Pictures: ADY KERRY

Canterbury ladies in line for a Euro place

AN ENTIRE season of hard work is on the line for Canterbury ladies this weekend as they take on Reading ladies in the Women's Championship semi-finals.

Victory, coupled with champions Leicester winning their semi-final, would guarantee the Kent club a place in European competition next season.

It would go a long way to make up for the disappointment at missing out on the Premier Division title, finishing two points behind Leicester when the regular season ended last weekend.

Canterbury lost tight games home and away to Reading in the league, but veteran Mel Clewlow believes they have every chance of progressing on Sunday.

She said: "If we were playing at their place I might have a slightly different outlook, but the fact we're at home and the way we've been playing the last few weeks I'm confident.

"It's exciting, from a player's perspective we have to prepare as normal. I'm sure there will be a few nerves around because it all boils down to this one game."

Picture: ADY KERRY

BIG CLASH: Canterbury ladies

Rebecca Weston (foot) is the only injury doubt, with the experienced Jen Wilson expected to shrug off an ankle problem in time to play.

A big crowd is expected at Polo Farm for the game, in a repetition of last Sunday, when the men dramatically avoided automatic relegation. A last-second winner from Michael Farrer pulled off a 2-1 win against Brooklands to put them into the play-offs later this month.

Mos desperate to end season with a flourish

MOMENTUM is the buzz-word at Invicta Dynamos as they look to play their way into some form ahead of the play-offs.

Romford Raiders visit on Sunday evening in the final game of the regular season. Although the Mos will finish the campaign fourth in the National League South Division One regardless of the result, the hosts will not be taking it lightly.

They head into the game with just one win in their last six games, an unheard of slump for the defending champions, and head coach Kevin Parrish is keen to get a result to take into the post-season.

He said: "We've just got to pull together, it's the only thing we can do and try to give us something to build on for the play-offs. We know we haven't played to our full potential this season and we definitely want to make up for that in the play-offs."

The injury crisis which saw the Mos call up 16-year-old Daniel Terry last weekend has abated with Callum Fowler available after suspension, but there is still a doubt over their netminders. Both Andy Moffat and Andrew Dickson are doubts, so Joe White may be drafted in at short notice.

Face-off at the Silver Blades is at 5.15pm.

Picture: DAVID TREVALLION

SLUMP: Invicta Dynamos want to end regular season with a win

Barham's back after kidney cancer scare

BENN Barham made his return to competitive golf at the Kenya Open on Thursday after recovering from a health scare.

Picture: ACTION IMAGES

It was his first appearance in six months following a winter recuperating from an operation to remove a kidney, which contained a cancerous tumour.

After playing several low key pro-am events in recent weeks, the Tenterden golfer teed up on the European Challenge Tour in Nairobi.

Barham (pictured) will spend the year predominantly playing in the second tier after losing his European Tour card. Speaking before the event at the Muthaiga Golf Club, where he finished 10th last year, the 35-year-old was delighted to focus on golf again, but expected a tough start.

He said: "It's great to be back in Kenya, I have fond memories from last year. The Challenge Tour is getting stronger, with the number of tournaments going up, and the quality I noticed last year had improved a lot."

The tournament finishes on Sunday, log on to www.kentsport.co.uk for details on how Barham fared.

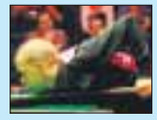
Smashing start not what Doran wanted

KENT driver Liam Doran made the worst possible start to the new motorsport season last Sunday when he was involved in a shocking rallycross accident at Lydden Hill.

The 24-year-old, from Sittingbourne, was thrown into the air (see picture above) just seconds after leaving the start line in the 'A' final of the British Rallycross Championship's opening round.

Doran barrel-rolled eight times and was taken to the William Harvey Hospital in Ashford. His injuries were not serious but he faces a race against time to be ready for the start of the European campaign, which also starts at Lydden on April 25.

Barry's big break fails to avert a China crisis



A FINE century was in vain as Barry Hawkins made an early exit from the China Open with a first round defeat to Neil Robertson.

The 128-break was the highlight for the Dartford potter, who lost 5-1 to the reigning world champion in Beijing on Monday.

Hawkins (pictured), provisionally ranked 27th in the world, came through qualifying to take his place in the main draw.

He was reduced to a spectator for long spells against Robertson as the Australian put together breaks of 79, 66 and 124 to open up a 4-0 lead.

A century was the perfect response, but Robertson stormed back to win the sixth frame to progress into the next round.

Luchford quits Town

JUSTIN Luchford became the fifth Kent non-league manager to leave his post this season after resigning because he felt he didn't have the backing he wanted to continue leading Faversham Town.

He was due to take charge of the Lilywhites for the final time against Fleet Town yesterday, bringing an end to a three-and-a-half-year reign which has seen the club progress from Kent League strugglers to chasing the play-offs in Ryman Division One South.

For the full story and only interview Luchford has given on his reasons for leaving, visit www.kentsport.co.uk.

Kent Flavour of the week

ASHMORE CHEESE AND ONION FLAVOUR POTATO CRISPS

Ashmore Farmhouse Cheese is made near Canterbury in a cheddar style. After milling it's wrapped in muslin and pressed for two days in old 19th Century presses. The cheeses are then unwrapped and placed on aged pine shelves in the maturing room for at least five months. Each cheese is turned and stoked daily.

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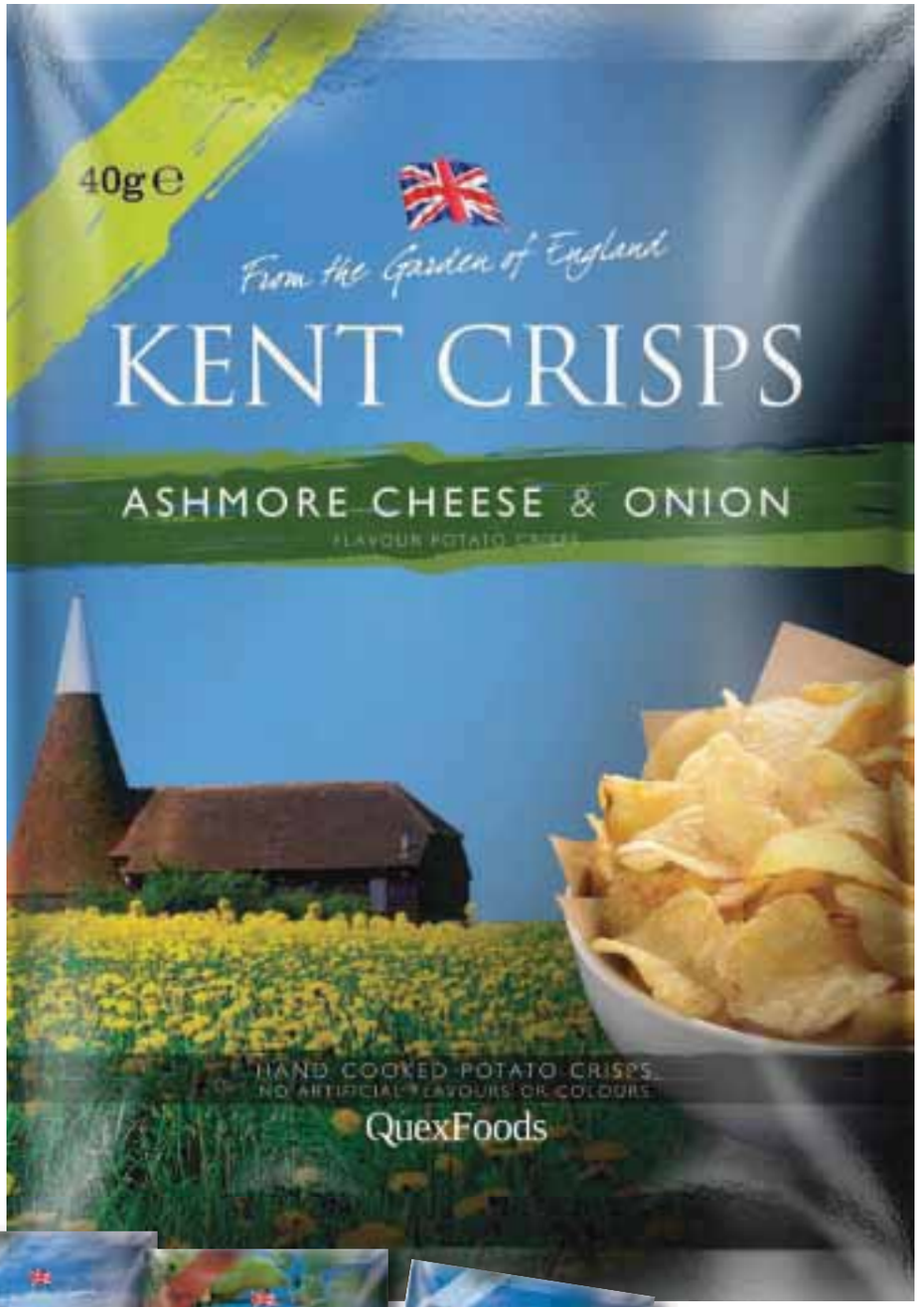

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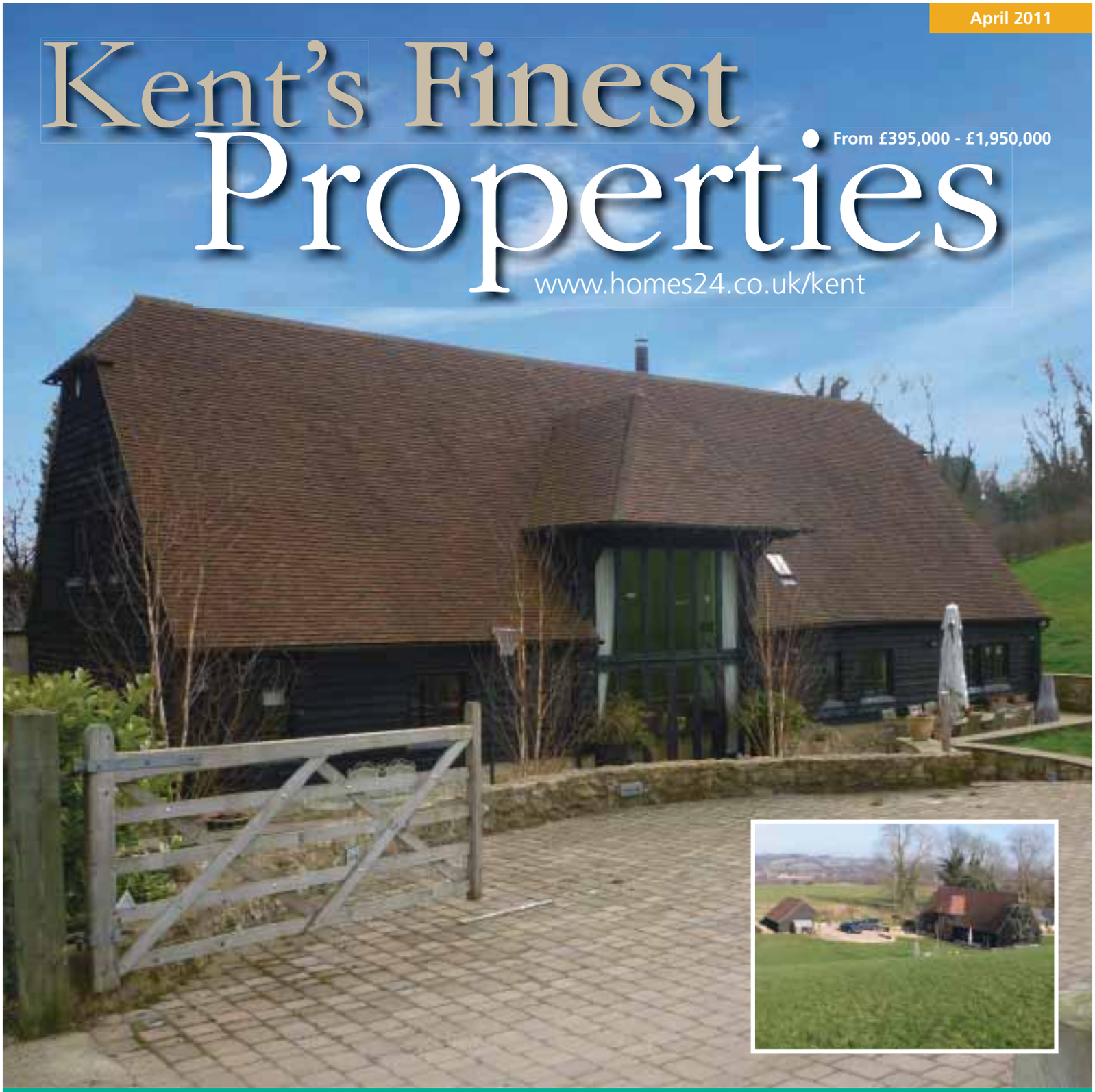

Grade II barn's a home of dreams

The barn that has everything **2-3**

Residential
Truly delightful homes across the county
4-23

New homes
A selection of the most impressive new builds
24-27

PULL-OUT SUPPLEMENT

Here it is! The second edition of Kent's Finest Properties, your unbeatable monthly guide featuring a range of the most exclusive residential and new home properties for sale across the county.

In addition, some of Kent's leading retail businesses display their superb products that will be sure to enhance any home.

There are more than 40 properties to savour, so please sit back and take a tour through this property wonderland.

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If you would like your property featured in the next edition of Kent's Finest Properties, talk to your local agent.

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One for the discerning buyer

Fairbourne Barn, Harrietsham

THIS is the chance for discerning buyers to obtain a Grade II-listed Kentish barn.

The property is offered for sale by Your Move Premier at Bearsted and boasts many character features including exposed beams, inglenook fireplace, galleried landing, ragstone features and oak flooring with underfloor heating throughout the living accommodation.

The well-proportioned accommodation comprises an imposing entrance hall, cloakroom/WC, double-aspect and vaulted living room, dining room, study, a splendid bespoke fitted kitchen/breakfast room, utility room, boiler room, bedroom en-suite and further bedroom on the ground floor.

There is a master bedroom with en-suite and dressing area, two further bedrooms (one en-suite) and family shower room/WC on the first floor.

The grounds extend across some two acres and consist of paddock areas, paved and patio areas, a water feature, lawned areas, borders and shrubs.

There is a detached Kentish barn-style triple garage with extensive paved parking areas.

The property benefits from oil-fired central heating and double-glazing as stated.

An early viewing of this splendid family home is essential to appreciate its charm, the benefits it has to offer and the semi-rural and secluded location it enjoys.

It is sited in Fairbourne Lane, Harrietsham, and enjoys far-reaching views across countryside.

The village of Harrietsham is about one mile away, while Maidstone, the county town of Kent, is about six miles distant.

Harrietsham has a railway station with connections to London and the coast, and the property is close to motorway networks.

This stunning property is priced at £1,000,000.

Agent: Your Move Mid Kent
01622 738282
www.your-move.co.uk

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Wayborough Manor, Minster **Guide price £1,450,000**

WAYBOROUGH Manor is a stunning Grade ll-listed Tudor house in a wonderfully-secluded location on the outskirts of the village of Minster.

It is a substantial family home providing well-appointed and comfortable accommodation.

A wood panelled door opens into the stone-floored front entrance hall and leads into the main hallway. ss doors open on to a gravelled area with seating for alfresco dining.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Canterbury
01227 451123
www.struttandparker.com

Long Barn, Broadstairs **£1,500,000**

A SUPERB example of a 1920s Edgar Ranger arts-and-crafts detached residence with a separate annexe and superb grounds of about one acre.

This beautiful Grade II-listed home is in a prestigious location in Broadstairs and within a short distance of award-winning beaches and the highly-regarded North Foreland golf course.

This residence boasts seven bedrooms, a vast array of large reception rooms including principal lounge, formal dining room, kitchen/diner, utility room, family room, boot room, strong room, cloakroom, wine store/snug, conservatory and games room.

In the beautifully manicured gardens are extensive lawns, fruit trees, alfresco dining areas, a heated swimming pool, pool house, two double garages and large driveway, all bounded by high walls and electronic gates.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866.
www.terencepainter.co.uk

Aldington Meadow, Aldington **£509,950**

SITUATED in Aldington, with views over Romney Marsh, is The Mazarine, a stylish five-bedroom detached house in a location that combines good access to the capital, coast and countryside – it's not surprising that life feels good at Aldington Meadow.

This property benefits from a fully-fitted kitchen with integrated appliances and five-burner gas hob.

There is gas central heating with a high-efficiency boiler as standard as well as a double garage and parking.

Indeed, The Mazarine is over 2,400 sq ft. It comprises a master bedroom with en-suite and dressing room and a further en-suite to bedroom 2.

The ground floor is delightful with an open-plan kitchen/breakfast area more than 25ft long with a utility room to the side.

Canterbury is 19 miles away.

Agent: Connells Park Farm
01233 502020
www.connells.co.uk

Modern Victorian splendour

Meadowside, Hungershall Park

MEADOWSIDE is an impressive Victorian villa which has been sympathetically and painstakingly restored, modernised and extended by the existing owners. The accommodation is both light and well proportioned and offers a sense of style and elegance of the period.

It combines all the modern conveniences for day-to-day life.

The house was extended about four years ago with the rooms reconfigured to provide light, spacious family living. The principal rooms have 'wired for sound' speakers inset to the ceiling.

The south-facing garden has been landscaped and is about 0.36 acres.

Principal features are:

Wide, glazed-panelled front door, limestone-tiled floor, stairs to first floor, exits to sitting room, kitchen and cloakroom;

Sitting room. A delightful room with windows to two aspects including a square bay window to the westerly elevation. Open fire with attractive, ornately carved, wooden fire surround, wooden floors; discreetly concealed is a trap door access to the cellar.

Drawing room. A lovely room with windows to two aspects. Two glazed-panelled doors giving access to both the south and west. Lovely marble fireplace. Delightful views over the garden.

Kitchen/breakfast room. An impressive room with hand-built kitchen, wooden working surfaces with cupboards and drawers below, a range of high-level wall cupboards and a cupola/light well providing additional light.

Stainless-steel range with cupboards either side, deep white sink, glazed-panelled door to terrace, limestone-tiled floor.

Boot room with cupboards and drawers, glazed-panelled door to the front of the house (north).

Laundry room with sink and cupboards.

Master bedroom suite. Lovely south-facing room with double-aspect and bay window. Dressing room area with double cupboard and other hanging space. En-suite bathroom appointed with twin basins, roll-top bath and large walk-in shower unit.

Four further bedrooms, some having fireplaces, one being a delightful second-floor guest room with southerly views.

The house is approached over a gravel drive from Hungershall Park to a parking and turning area. To the west of the house is a gravelled courtyard. The gardens are mainly to the south and laid to lawn, gently terraced with flower and shrub borders.

Planning permission exists to further extend the property to create an orangery, study and separate garage. Plans from the agent.

This property is priced at £1,950,000.

Agent: Knight Frank Tunbridge Wells
01892 515035
www.knightfrank.co.uk

Enjoy your privacy

Matfield Gate, Matfield

MATFIELD Gate is an attractive Victorian family house, having rendered elevations, partially relieved at first-floor level by tile-hanging under a pitched, tiled roof.

The house is full of character and includes fireplaces, double-aspect rooms and a beautifully-fitted kitchen/breakfast room. The light and well-proportioned rooms have good ceiling heights.

It has a mature and very private garden and grounds, full of mature specimen trees. Particular points of note include the following:

Attractive hall with elegant staircase to the first floor, and doors to all the principal reception rooms.

A lovely drawing room with windows to two aspects, doors to the terrace, ornate marble fireplace, cupboards and display shelving to either side of the chimney recess, attractive bay window.

Dining room with double aspect, attractive fireplace, display shelving and cupboard.

Delightful kitchen/breakfast room with double-oven Aga, extensive granite work surfaces with range of cupboards and drawers below, deep white sink, plate rack, wall cupboards, further shelving, central island unit extended to one end to form a breakfast bar, wooden work surfaces, additional sink, further range of cupboards and drawers, concealed fridge-freezer, stunning bay window overlooking the terrace and garden, further bookshelving.

Family room with access to the study.

Master bedroom – a spacious room with windows overlooking the garden, en-suite bathroom.

This makes the grade

Old Swatlands, Goudhurst

OLD Swatlands is a Grade II-listed 16th-century property that has been comprehensively renovated and extended by the current owners.

The house now offers attractively-presented family accommodation with a successful blend of period and contemporary features.

The property sits well within its grounds and has stunning views over the Glassenbury estate and Bedgebury Forest.

This property is immaculately presented throughout and has some lovely period features including exposed oak beams, exposed oak floorboards and inglenook fireplaces.

Modern additions, which stem from the extended kitchen/breakfast room and the Marston and Langinger conservatory, include underfloor heating and a Bose sound system, which can be found in many of the principal rooms.

The superb kitchen/breakfast room, which is open to the conservatory, is fitted with bespoke kitchen work surfaces.

The views from this part of the house in particular are spectacular, making it an area where you will find yourself spending plenty of time.

The upstairs accommodation works well, with the large master bedroom having a vaulted ceiling and mezzanine dressing/storage area as well as far-reaching views.

There are three further bedrooms and a fifth bedroom/study in the main house.

To the side of the house is the detached converted barn, which is not listed, providing excellent additional accommodation.

There is a large reception room with feature fireplace, kitchen, side hall and wet room for the pool and on the first floor are two double bedrooms and shower room.

The property is approached through electronically-operated gates leading to a gravelled turning and parking area, to the side of which is an English Heritage triple garage and store room.

To the side of the barn is a large paved entertaining area with heated swimming pool, overlooking the gardens and the outstanding views down the valley.

Situated below the pool terrace is an astro-turf championship-sized tennis court, with the remainder of the garden being mainly laid to lawn. The gardens are beautifully kept.

This property is priced at £1,800,000.

Agent: Knight Frank Tunbridge Wells
01892 515035
www.knightfrank.co.uk

Attractive landing, from which there is access to a further three bedrooms and two bathrooms, staircase to second floor.

Two further bedrooms and a bathroom.

Approached through a wooden gate and high yew hedging to a gravelled parking and turning area in front of the house, the gardens and grounds are a wonderful feature.

Principally laid to lawn, the gardens are interspersed with both young and mature trees and flower and shrub borders.

Adjacent to the house is a log cabin comprising a games room, home office and decked seating area. There is a garage.

On the north-west elevation is a range of outbuildings including a potting shed, garden store, additional garage, garden room and gardeners' WC. This area does have potential to be enveloped into the living accommodation of the house, subject to permission.

The grounds cover about 4.5 acres.

This property is priced at £1,850,000.

Agent: Knight Frank Tunbridge Wells
01892 515035
www.knightfrank.co.uk

Farmhouse set in lovely countryside

Pullens Farmhouse, Horsmonden

PULLENS Farmhouse is a historic Grade II-listed country house, believed to date back in part to 1458.

The property is built of brick, with some colour-washed rendering, part tile-hung and part timber upper elevations under a Kent peg-tile roof.

There is an abundance of period features, which include a wealth of beams and timbers, open fireplaces, mullioned windows and original 15th-century lath and plaster.

Pullens Farmhouse provides excellent family accommodation, arranged over three floors. The mature grounds give a wonderful setting to the house, with views over the surrounding countryside.

Some features include:

Ground floor: triple-aspect drawing room with impressive inglenook fireplace and bressumer beam, French doors to terrace, mullioned and leaded light windows, impressive dining room with wood-burning stove, Georgian sash windows and kitchen with oil-fired Aga, range of oak base and wall units, granite worktops over and slate flooring.

First floor: master bedroom with en-suite shower room and walk-in wardrobe, window overlooking gardens and grounds with wonderful views; steps up to study/attic storage area; three further bedrooms and family bathroom.

Second floor: spacious bedroom suite comprising bedroom, sitting room and bathroom with vaulted ceiling and wealth of exposed timbers and original wood flooring.

Pullens Farmhouse is approached through an 'in and out' driveway, with electrically-operated gates at each end, to a parking and turning area. The gardens surrounding the property are stocked with trees, shrubs and plants. To one side an oak bridge leads to a paddock.

The gardens to the rear of the property are laid to lawn and lead towards the lake and small orchard with a variety of fruit trees including apple, cherry and plum.

In addition to the main house, the property benefits from a four-bay garage with external elevations of oak weatherboard under a Kent peg-tiled roof. This provides three open bays, one closed bay and a games room above.

One of the outbuildings is of brick construction under a Kent peg-tiled roof with an attractive clocktower. This building houses a workshop, garden store and gardeners' WC.

Adjacent to this is a two-bay tractor shed, and beyond are timber-framed kennels. There is an additional paddock and in all the gardens and grounds extend to about 6.8 acres.

This property is priced at £1,600,000.

Agent: Knight Frank Tunbridge Wells
01892 515035
www.knightfrank.co.uk

One for style-lovers

Long Barn, Broadstairs

A SUPERB example of a 1920s Edgar Ranger arts-and-crafts detached residence with a separate annexe and superb grounds of about one acre.

This beautiful Grade II-listed home is in a prestigious location in Broadstairs and within a short distance of award-winning beaches and the highly-regarded North Foreland golf course.

This residence boasts seven bedrooms, a vast array of large reception rooms including principal lounge, formal dining room, kitchen/diner, utility room, family room, boot room, strong room, cloakroom, wine store/snug, conservatory and games room.

There is a separate annexe which incorporates open-plan living/sleeping plus a kitchen and bathroom.

In the beautifully manicured gardens are extensive lawns, fruit trees, alfresco dining areas, a heated swimming pool, pool house, two double garages and large driveway, all bounded by high walls and electronic gates.

Edgar Ranger was born at East Peckham, near Tunbridge Wells, in 1888.

Training to become an architect, he made a study of the domestic architecture of Kent and Surrey.

He set up an independent practice in Gerrards Cross in 1911, with offices in Orchehill Chambers, Station Parade. Developing a large plot of land to the north of Austenwood Common, he built The Downs and Kinnerton in 1911 and his own house, Old Basing, in 1912. He used the same patterns of half-timbering and tile-hanging he had observed in the cottages of southern England.

He served in the Army during the First World War and afterwards set up a practice in Broadstairs and London.

He was made an FRIBA in 1931.

This amazing residence is available to view through the sole agent, open seven days a week.

This property is priced at £1,500,000.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866.
www.terencepainter.co.uk

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Wonderfully secluded

Wayborough Manor, Minster

WAYBOROUGH Manor is a stunning Grade II-listed Tudor house in a wonderfully-secluded location on the outskirts of the village of Minster.

It is a substantial family home providing well-appointed and comfortable accommodation.

A wood panelled door opens into the stone-floored front entrance hall and leads into the main hallway.

The sitting room is a light sunny room with exposed beams, wide wooden floorboards and large windows overlooking the garden; the room is open to the main hallway on one side, where there is an eye-catching open fireplace with elegant stone surround.

The beautifully-finished kitchen has a stone floor and there is a larder and utility room.

The double-aspect dining room has wonderful wooden floorboards – it is a well-proportioned room perfect for formal entertaining.

A study overlooks the main garden and there is a further good-size reception room with an attractive built-in bar and a door opening on to the patio area and garden beyond.

Stairs lead from the living room to the first floor, where the master bedroom is double-aspect overlooking the main garden and has a dressing room/walk-in wardrobe leading through into the en-suite bathroom.

Bedroom 2 has a mezzanine room, which could be converted to an en-suite bathroom or dressing room. There are three further bedrooms and a family bathroom

Mature yew trees line the herringbone-brick drive up to the house.

A brick patio surrounds the house before leading down into the well-kept lawn and a further area perfect for lawn tennis.

A path leads from the house to the spa room, which is fully equipped with an electric sauna, hot tub, shower, separate WC and basin.

Glass doors open on to a gravelled area with seating for alfresco dining.

This property has a guide price of £1,450,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Canterbury
01227 451123
www.struttandparker.com

STRUTT & PARKER

Are you to the manor born?

Bardleden Manor, Smarden

BARDLEDEN Manor is a traditional Kentish farm-house of timber-framed construction with brick elevations under a Kent peg-tiled roof. The house is believed in part to have 15th-century origins.

A Georgian extension and frontage make Bardleden Manor an extremely handsome house.

Period features include a combination of sash and leaded light windows, internal shutters and window seats. There is a magnificent oak staircase, exposed timbers and open fireplaces.

The accommodation is arranged over ground, first and second floors.

Features of the property include:

Drawing room with windows to three aspects, impressive brick inglenook fireplace with exposed bread oven, door to conservatory.

Sitting room with brick fireplace with wood-burning stove, fitted full-height shelves, door to deep store cupboard

Dining room with two sash windows, attractive brick fireplace with alcove shelving, cupboards to either side, panelled walls with concealed door to kitchen/breakfast room with several doors leading to the entrance hall, conservatory, garden, pantry and utility room, lovely limestone floor.

The kitchen is fitted with painted base and dresser units set under granite working surfaces. The island unit has a Neff hob and oven with cupboards underneath. Integral appliances include a fridge-freezer, ceramic sink, freestanding dishwasher and four-oven Aga.

Utility/boot room, with adjacent cloakroom, is spacious with fitted cupboards, a double sink and drainer and limestone flooring.

The conservatory is a feature of the house and provides a link between the principal reception rooms. There are double doors leading to the courtyard

On the first floor, the landing extends almost the length of the house and gives access to the five principal bedrooms. The double-aspect master bedroom has a wide dressing area with an adjacent bathroom on the second floor, accessed by its own staircase.

Bedroom 2 has a shower room and separate WC. Bedroom 3 has a separate WC and built-in wardrobe cupboard. Bedrooms 4 and 5 have a shared shower room and are also accessible from the landing

On the second floor are three further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

The gardens are approached by an impressive in-and-out drive through an electrically-operated five-bar gate. To one side, the drive extends around the side of the house with a further five-bar gate to the front of the large brick-built garage. There is a further substantial outbuilding of timber and brick construction comprising two stores and two American-style loose boxes with separate store area and WC.

The gardens are in two parts, and the first is set within a walled garden. They are planted with herbaceous plants, lavenders and roses. There is an attractive pergola and a terrace close to the conservatory. A further area of garden and lawn is interspersed by fruit trees.

There is a swimming pool in one corner.

This property is priced at £1,450,000.

Agent: Knight Frank Tunbridge Wells
01892 515035
www.knightfrank.co.uk

Just great for the family

Chart House, Great Chart

CHART House is an important period house in the heart of the popular village of Great Chart.

Recently fully refurbished, the house offers superb family accommodation together with a wonderful detached cottage.

Either side of a spacious entrance hall is an elegant and well-proportioned panelled drawing room and a sitting room, both of which have original shutters and marble fireplaces.

To the back of the house is a dining room with a large inglenook fireplace and oak flooring.

There is an excellent family kitchen arranged around an Aga, with ample space for a good-size table in front of a cast-iron fireplace. Off the kitchen is a pantry and utility room.

A magnificent staircase rises to the landing, which is lit from above via a roof-light.

The master bedroom is a bright room with exposed timbers, a walk-in wardrobe and a beautifully-fitted en-suite shower room.

From the galleried landing, further steps lead to two beautifully-proportioned bedrooms with large sash windows with original shutters and which share a 'Jack and Jill' shower room. There are four further bedrooms, two of which are en-suite.

The separate detached cottage is a pretty detached building of mellow brick and ragstone elevations and comprising a sitting room, kitchen and two bedrooms with en-suite shower rooms.

Chart House is set back from the road behind established clipped yew and conifer hedging.

A gravel drive leads to the side of the house through a five-bar gate to a large gravelled parking area in front of a newly-built three-bay car port and the cottage.

The gardens extend to the side and rear of the house and are divided into various areas mainly laid to lawn interspersed with trees and flower-beds.

There is established box hedging with two lovely secluded walled gardens behind the house.

This property has a guide price of £1,450,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Canterbury
01227 451123
www.struttandparker.com

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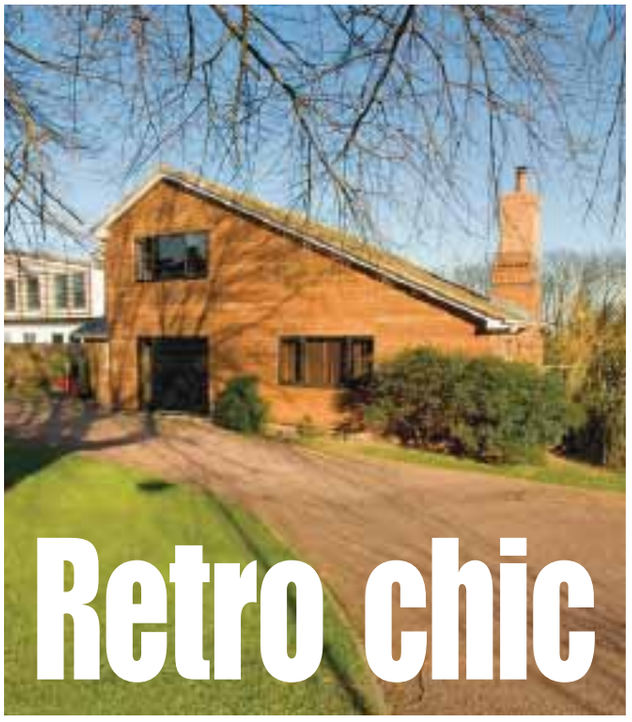

Retro chic

Fairacre Lodge, Broadstairs

THIS unique detached residence which oozes contemporary style and space is on the prestigious North Foreland private estate in Broadstairs.

Poised on a generously-sized plot with stunning views of the sea, the location is set for this particularly beautiful home.

At the bottom of the garden is a brick-built, pitched-roof structure which could be easily converted into a detached annexe if desired.

Situated within a comfortable distance of the bustling town, beaches, restaurants and bars, this house also offers the perfect sociable interior for entertaining friends and family.

At the end of the avenue is the sea, looking out over the wind farm and across the Channel. The promenade provides wonderful walks to Kingsgate and Broadstairs.

The owners have designed this home with the intention of creating a modern and fluid style of living, incorporating large open-plan areas and lots of glass to the rear, making the most of the sea views and aspects of the large gardens.

This residence has four double bedrooms, two en-suites and a separate bathroom on the first floor, a large reception entrance, a 33ft principal open-plan lounge, a second large reception room, extensive kitchen/diner, utility room and cloakroom on the ground floor.

There is a sweeping in-and-out driveway to the front, a further large driveway to the side providing off-road parking for more than a dozen vehicles, boats or caravans, plus a detached pitched-roof building that could be converted into an annexe although is currently arranged as a double garage and an office/gym.

This property also benefits from planning consent granted in 2008 for an additional two bedrooms and bathroom.

This property is priced at £1,150,000.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866
www.terencepainter.co.uk

Terence Painter Properties

Set in superb rural location

Lewsome Farm House, near Lenham

LEWSOME Farm House is a fascinating and well-presented Grade II-listed medieval hall house with splendid Victorian addition and separate annexe, all in a lovely rural location.

The two sections complement each other perfectly to create a very unusual but delightful family home.

The majority of the original features from both portions have been retained and enhanced and include exposed timbers, lovely inglenook fireplaces, bressumer beams and, in the Victorian section, high ceilings, picture rails, cornicing and cast-iron and slate fireplaces.

Of particular merit is the impressive reception hall with solid-wood staircase and galleried landing.

The property is in a delightful rural location in a small cluster of buildings consisting of the farmhouse, the oasthouse and two cottages.

The house is approached through a five-bar gate, up a long private drive which leads to a large parking and turning area in front of the detached office/studio.

The studio was converted by the present vendors to provide a superb room exposed to the full pitch of the roof, together with a cloakroom and small kitchen.

Lewsome Farm House enjoys delightful gardens with terrace and wisteria-covered pergola, with the added advantage of two post-and-rail-bordered paddocks. In all there are 3.64 acres.

This property has a guide price of £1,150,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker, Sevenoaks
01732 459900
www.struttandparker.com

Victorian house dates from 1900

Enbrook House, West Malling

ENBROOK House is an elegant and substantial Victorian country house dating from about 1900 and provides excellent family accommodation all set in delightful gardens and grounds.

The house provides extremely light and spacious accommodation and has been extensively renovated by the owners yet retains many original features such as high ceilings, picture rails, deep skirting boards, panelled interior doors and many attractive period fireplaces throughout.

Of particular note is the spacious reception hall and first-floor landing.

Enbrook House is set far back from the road and approached via electronically-controlled iron gates leading to a wide shingle drive giving access to the detached double garage and continues to a large parking and turning area adjacent to the house.

The gardens are a delightful feature of the property, with many areas of interest including an orchard with both eating and cooking apples and pear and plum trees.

There is also a separate area of kitchen garden.

Beyond the garden is a large area of fenced and gated paddock with additional gated access to the far end of the field. In all, the property covers 3.38 acres.

On the outskirts of West Malling, Enbrook House sits in an elevated position enjoying far-reaching views across open countryside.

West Malling is one of the most attractive small towns in mid-Kent, with a wide main street lined on each side by a fine collection of period properties, and provides an extremely good range of amenities in addition to excellent boutique-style shops and restaurants.

This property has a guide price of £1,150,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker, Sevenoaks
01732 459900
www.struttandparker.com

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Home to the barn

The Barn, Twitham Court Farm, Wingham

A MAGNIFICENT detached Grade ll-listed 18th-century Kentish barn and completely separate two-bedroom cottage.

Imaginatively converted by the present owners from a near-derelict farm building in what was to become a no-expense-spared project started in 1997 and completed in 2009, this truly spectacular home masterfully combines character on a grand scale with the comforts and convenience only afforded in a high-quality kitchen and luxurious bathrooms.

The centrepiece of the home is the reception hall with 12ft-high double-glazed barn doors in the north and south elevations that flood the vast open-plan living area in natural daylight and when open bring the beautifully landscaped gardens into the home, making a perfect setting for entertaining.

The adjacent sitting room features a web of structural timbers supporting the roof trusses and beams to the ceiling's apex 26ft above the polished-oak-planked floor and has a powerful 16 kilowatt wood-burning stove standing on a wide stone hearth.

There are five bedrooms, the entire property has the benefit of underfloor heating and a heat-exchanger system recirculates the warmth around this double-glazed and well-insulated home.

The internal doors, door frames and architraves are all in oak, so not surprisingly the kitchen boasts a comprehensive range of high-quality oak units with granite worktops and integrated appliances including a Neff conventional double-oven, combination microwave oven, a ceramic hob and lava grill.

The attention to detail and quality extends equally to the bedrooms, all of which have the character of exposed beams. The master bedroom has an extensive range of built-in wardrobes, cupboards and drawer units cleverly disguised behind a false wall and a stunning en-suite shower room.

The gardens are amazing, due largely to the owner's insight to plant the majority of the trees and evergreen laurel hedges when they began to convert The Barn so that they have reached a maturity that brings seclusion and screen off the workshop, kitchen garden, parking area and The Cottage.

There are three ornamental ponds, one with a bridge across that approaches the front door and another in the garden of The Cottage. The rear garden enjoys a south-facing aspect and pleasant outlook from the patio across the lawn to well-stocked shrubs against a backdrop of specimen trees.

This property is priced at £1,100,000.

Agent: Fine & Country Canterbury
01227 479317
www.fineandcountry.com

Splendid coastal living

Lanthorne House, Broadstairs

BUILT some five years ago, this amazing detached home has a real medieval feel from its imposing façade, and once you step inside you will be absorbed by its uniqueness and splendour.

The vendors built this house for themselves, so attention to detail was a key factor in achieving a fluid balance of practicality but retaining the wow factor.

It is in the highly-desirable location of Lanthorne Road in Broadstairs, a short distance from the town, beaches and exclusive North Foreland golf club.

Transport links are also easily accessible, with the fast train to London only a few minutes' drive away, meaning you can get to the city in about one hour and 20 minutes.

Bus routes are nearby, providing easy access to the adjacent seaside towns of Ramsgate and Margate and Westwood Cross shopping centre for all high street-branded requirements.

Lanthorne House comprises extensive accommodation throughout and some of the benefits include six bedrooms, five bathrooms, a grand entrance hall leading to a principal lounge, formal dining room, family kitchen/diner and utility room, family room, cloakroom, games room and conservatory. Upstairs there are six double bedrooms and five quality-fitted en-suites all individually designed to suit each room.

The master suite measures a staggering 51ft, which includes a marble-tiled bathroom with a further steam/shower room beyond.

The house is bounded by high walls and electronic gates which lead to a large sweeping driveway; there is a double garage and low-maintenance front gardens.

The back garden measures some 100ft x 60ft and is mainly laid to lawn with a patio seating area from the dining room.

This spectacular home is offered with no forward chain.

This property is priced at £995,000.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866
www.terencepainter.co.uk

A lovingly restored house

Stansted House, Stansted

STANSTED House is a fine Edwardian country house with excellent family accommodation and attractive gardens and grounds in the heart of a delightful village. It has superb far-reaching views.

The house is extremely well presented and been lovingly restored by the owners over the last 12 years.

It now offers light and spacious, flexible family accommodation and retains a wealth of attractive features.

The drawing room is a particularly fine room, with double doors leading to the paved terrace and garden beyond.

The property is set back from the village green overlooking the war memorial.

It is approached by an 'in-and-out' driveway each with a five-bar gate, leading to parking for several cars in front of the detached double garage.

To the front is a delightful manicured lawn with mature trees and shrubs all bound by hedges with plentifully-stocked herbaceous borders.

To the north of the garden is a small paddock with separate road access.

Stansted is a delightful village benefiting from an excellent primary school and church, with good shopping facilities close by at Wrotham and Borough Green.

Ebbsfleet international station, with services to Europe and commuter services to London St Pancras in about 17 minutes, is also easily accessible.

This property has a guide price of £975,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Sevenoaks
01732 459900
www.struttandparker.com

Wake up to the sound of the sea

The Outfields, Broadstairs

A BEAUTIFULLY-presented and remodelled family home with a large separate annexe commanding an elevated position on the prestigious North Foreland private estate, within metres of the picturesque promenade offering superb walks into the town.

Located in North Foreland Avenue with the wonderful lighthouse as your neighbour, this residence has been extended and maintained by the owners without compromise and offers light, spacious and contemporary living throughout, providing enough space for all the family, plus separate guest accommodation within the large annexe.

The North Foreland private estate is a highly-regarded and sought-after location near Broadstairs and is within just a few minutes' drive into the bustling town with its array of shops, beautiful beaches, restaurants and bars.

This residence comprises five double bedrooms, three bathrooms, principal lounge, dining/family room, a contemporary and extensive kitchen/diner, a secondary lounge measuring 32ft within the annexe, a cloakroom, study and conservatory.

There are immaculate deep front and rear gardens with high walls and electronic entrance gates.

From the first floor, look across the sea and wind farm and take in the spectacular views and breathe in the sea air!

With very attractive surroundings, The Outfields boasts wonderful aspects of the sea, wind farm and lighthouse, along with highly-manicured deep front gardens and a large courtyard-style garden to the rear.

It is situated within a comfortable distance from the hustle and bustle of the town, yet not too far to grasp the ambience and interesting sights that the historic town of Broadstairs has to offer.

If this house still isn't big enough, there is so much scope to extend further, incorporating a double-storey above the annexe if desired, subject to the necessary planning consents.

This property is priced at £900,000.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866
www.terencepainter.co.uk

Originally a Wealden hall house

North Elham Farmhouse, Canterbury

NORTH Elham Farmhouse is a beautifully presented Grade II-listed house believed to date to the 15th century.

Originally a Wealden hall house, as with many properties of this age various additions have been made, particularly in the 18th century.

A solid-oak door leads into the entrance hall, a beautiful room showing the original timber-frame construction.

From here, doors lead to the principal reception rooms.

The drawing room is a splendid room with an enormous deep inglenook fireplace with a wood-burning stove and a wide Georgian window overlooking the garden.

A door leads into the dining room with original brick floor and smoke-stained timbers and a further inglenook fireplace.

Off the drawing room is the library, with a tall window to the front and massive ceiling timbers including an original dragon beam.

Adjacent to the kitchen is a lovely family breakfast room with a wide inglenook fireplace housing an Aga and there is a mezzanine study area above.

A door leads into the kitchen, with a good range of fitted cupboards with beech work-surfaces over. There is a utility room.

The master bedroom has an en-suite shower room and views over the garden. There are three further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

Electric double-oak gates lead to a parking area immediately in front of the house and a gravel drive sweeps around the house to another set of gates leading back to the lane.

The formal gardens are adjacent to the house and comprise areas of lawns intersected with brick-and-paved pathways which are bordered by lavender and box hedging.

The owners have planted numerous specimen trees.

Beyond the formal gardens there is a variety of period and more modern farm buildings, including a barn and two granaries, one of which provides an unusual entertaining space.

This property has a guide price of £900,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Canterbury
01227 451123
www.struttandparker.com

Lovely countryside views

Whyte Ladys, Harrietsham

WHYTE Ladys is a detached property that has recently been refurbished extensively by its owners.

The front door opens into the main entrance hall, where you are greeted with a stunning oak staircase.

To the left you will find the kitchen that has been designed to provide ample storage cupboards and a breakfast bar.

The cupboards are finished in light-oak effect with black-granite worktops.

Integrated appliances include a Cannon gas oven with six hobs, wine fridge, extractor fan, dishwasher and fridge-freezer.

From the kitchen you can access the dining room, which overlooks the back garden and has a double-sided wood-burning stove as the main focal point of the room.

The entrance hall provides access to the spacious sitting room that has a double-sided wood-burning stove and bi-folding doors that open on to the south-west-facing patio with stunning far-reaching views across the countryside.

Along the hall you will find two double bedrooms, a study/bedroom, a utility room, cloakroom and family bathroom.

On the first floor you will find the master bedroom that has a spacious en-suite bathroom, built-in wardrobes and a balcony that overlooks the back garden and paddocks.

Along the landing you will find bedroom 2, which has been fitted with an en-suite and wardrobes. You will also find useful storage areas on this floor.

There is a self-contained annexe; although linked to the main house, it also has a separate entrance. The accommodation comprises a sitting room, kitchen, bathroom and bedroom.

The secluded gardens and private woodlands extend to 3.37 acres.

There is also a third-share of an eight-acre paddock adjoining the rear of the property. There is a double garage and storage sheds.

This property is priced in excess of £875,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Canterbury
01227 451123
www.struttandparker.com

The truly perfect location

The Coppice, Denton

NESTLING in just over one-and-a-half acres of delightful wooded grounds in a truly rural area of unspoilt countryside is this architect-designed, 10-year-old detached house built by the present owners for their own occupation.

The home beautifully combines the technologies and convenience of a modern house with the aesthetics of a period property.

"We wanted a typical Kentish cottage look," said John. "It was worth the effort sourcing the Kent Restoration bricks and handmade clay roof-tiles.

"I am a bit of a perfectionist, I suppose – every detail has to be just right, whether it's the handmade windows, the way a rafter end is decoratively fashioned or the endless hand-cut bricks required to complete the architectural features.

"Without this attention to detail, we would not have the home we have today, a home that so perfectly suits its surroundings".

Jan continued: "The nice thing about building from scratch is you can incorporate features during its construction that would be impractical afterwards.

"For example, we built in wiring for hi-fi around the house, a sophisticated exterior lighting system and underfloor heating with variable temperature zones.

"This is a superb-looking home," say the couple.

"But what we value most is the beautiful location – we are truly in the heart of the English countryside. It is extremely rare to come across a property that has perfect surroundings.

"We have found when looking for our next home that the immediate plot can be quite nice, but all too often there is a negative aspect that spoils the overall situation.

"The most wonderful thing about this location is that it is completely unspoilt."

This property is priced at £850,000.

Agent: Fine & Country
01227 479317
fineandcountry.com

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So convenient for connections

Haverbrack, Challock

AFTER 30 years of blissful occupation, the owner of Haverbrack, in the rural setting of Challock, has decided that now is the time to sell.

Challock is between Ashford, with its international passenger station and high-speed train to London (37 minutes to St Pancras) and Faversham. Only eight miles away is the cathedral city of Canterbury.

This distinctive village home with equestrian potential occupies an exceptionally pretty plot with southerly aspect extending to almost 2.5 acres and provides well-proportioned accommodation arranged over three floors.

The ground floor comprises an imposing reception hall with elegant staircase to the first floor, a principal reception room with inglenook fireplace and a double-aspect dining room.

It also has a conservatory, study, another reception room with cloakroom and a delightful kitchen/breakfast room with wine-chilling store, walk-in pantry and wood-burning stove.

On the first floor there is a double-aspect master suite with stunning views, luxury full en-suite bathroom and bedroom 2, which is currently being used as a dressing room.

There is a further bedroom on the first floor and split-level spacious bathroom and separate WC.

On the second floor, bedrooms 4 and 5 will be found – again with superb views.

The property is enhanced by a 2.5-acre plot with heated greenhouse, wood store, automatic gated entrance, double garage and circular turning area.

This property is priced between £850,000-£950,000.

Agent: Connells Park Farm
01233 502020
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Safe family environment

The Barn, Prior Court, Molash

THE Barn is in a delightful rural setting on the North Downs in an area designated as being of special landscape interest and outstanding natural beauty – there is a 13th-century church and village pub close by.

It is the largest of three former farmyard buildings originally belonging to the neighbouring 17th-century farmhouse. They were restored sympathetically and converted to high-quality character homes in 2007.

The Barn enjoys grounds of two-thirds of an acre, a safe environment for children and pets as it is set well back from the road in an attractive courtyard setting which is approached over a curving driveway leading to an open barn-style double garage.

The spacious and luxuriously-appointed interior features a wealth of character, and vaulted beamed ceilings rise above a central suspended galleried landing over the centre of the main living area, which is bathed in natural light through lofty barn-doors in the front and rear elevations.

Clearly this is a practical and comfortable home with a large family bathroom and en-suites to three of the four double bedrooms.

The main living room, measuring 50ft x 26ft, works exceptionally well as there are cleverly-designed areas that zone the kitchen from the dining area and the dining area from the lounge, which features a double-sided multi-fuel stove and oak floor.

The kitchen with a travertine stone floor is extensively equipped with bespoke furniture and integrated appliances; there is an adjacent breakfast recess and off to one side a well-equipped and extremely useful utility/boot room with door to the outside and garage.

A pleasant ambient temperature is provided by underfloor heating

You'll be pining to come home

White Pines, Long Mill Lane, Crouch

WHITE Pines is an elegant single-storey house designed and built in 1970 in beautiful gardens in a quiet semi-rural location. The property is a most interesting architect-designed house that was conceived by the present vendor and built to exacting standards.

It is a special example of the period and featured in Ideal Home in 1975.

The house provides good spacious family accommodation with an abundance of original features, such as pine-panelled ceilings, pine-panelled doors and double-glazed windows in solid-wood frames.

Of particular note is a hardwood double-glazed conservatory with marble-tiled floor and double doors leading to the adjacent terrace with pond and garden beyond with extensive views to surrounding farmland.

The property is in the heart of the sought-after hamlet of Crouch in a delightful semi-rural location.

The house is set back from the lane, being extremely well screened by high mature hedges and is approached initially by a shared drive (owned by White Pines) to a large turning and parking area in front of two detached garages.

The gardens are a delightful feature of the property and surround the house on all sides, being exceptionally private and principally laid to lawn, with a variety of mature specimen trees.

Crouch is within 1.5 miles of Borough Green, which offers good facilities together with a mainline station serving Victoria in about 50 minutes.

Both Borough Green and the adjoining village of Platt have good primary schools.

This property has a guide price of £750,000.

Agent: Strutt & Parker Sevenoaks
01732 459900
www.struttandparker.com

STRUTT & PARKER

downstairs and radiators throughout the first floor.

Local residents enjoy an idyllic village lifestyle, yet it is so easy to travel to London. It takes 11 minutes to drive to Ashford International station and then it's 37 minutes on the train to St Pancras.

Priced from £725,000 to £795,000.

Agent: Fine & Country Canterbury
01227 479317
www.fineandcountry.com

Enjoy glorious sea views

Ramsgate

CHARACTER and style combine with uninterrupted panoramic sea views from this stunning residence on the doorstep of Ramsgate's royal marine harbour and town centre.

This magnificent home has been refurbished without compromise and the owner has paid attention to every conceivable detail, including a built-in entertainment system and mood-flash-lighting.

The accommodation comprises four bedrooms, four reception rooms, three bathrooms, granite kitchen and roof terrace boasting uninterrupted sea and harbour views.

This property is £675,000.

Agent: Your Move East Kent
01843 584848
www.your-move.co.uk

The perfect combination

Furzefield Avenue, Speldhurst

IN the sought-after village of Speldhurst just outside Royal Tunbridge Wells, this magnificent four-bedroom detached property offers the perfect combination of town and country.

A beautiful home arranged over three floors, it includes an open-plan living area, a fully-fitted kitchen and bedroom balconies with views across a large garden to the rural landscape beyond, to name just a few of the unique features of this house.

Furzefield Avenue is the ideal family home.

Downstairs, the open-plan, wooden-floored living area offers a stylish and flexible living space which incorporates a large kitchen and dinning area – perfect for family life.

The living area looks out to the garden through large double-glazed concertina doors which extend to the full width of the ground floor.

Perfect for summer, these doors can open up the entire ground floor of the property to the garden.

In winter, the open fireplace with inset wood-burner is the perfect finishing touch to this delightful living space.

Upstairs, bedrooms 2 and 3 have adjoining balconies, both of which provide fantastic views of the property's large garden and the landscape beyond.

Two of the four bedrooms include en-suite bathrooms, and a family bathroom serves the remaining two rooms.

The master bedroom is on the second floor and enjoys further views of the rural landscape.

The surrounding area of Speldhurst has a lot to offer its residents. It is just two and half miles from Tunbridge Wells with its rail links to London, fantastic shopping, the famous and historic Pantiles and a range of great pubs and restaurants.

The village of Speldhurst offers a good nursery and primary school, plus a gastro pub called The George and Dragon serving great food and traditional ales.

This property is priced at £600,000.

Agent: Connells Tunbridge Wells
01892 547966
www.connells.co.uk

Close to city centre

Hackington Haven, Canterbury

HACKINGTON Haven is a delightful period property within more than half-an-acre of land and gardens on St Stephen's Hill in the historic city of Canterbury.

It is rare to find a property of this stature within 1.5 miles of the city centre and just over a mile from Canterbury West train station.

A long, gated driveway leads up to this wonderful four-bedroom detached residence. The house boasts lovely original-period features including fireplaces, windows, flooring and internal doors.

The ground-floor accommodation includes a living room with an exposed chimney breast and hearth and French doors that lead out on to the garden, a spacious dining room with a former fireplace recess, a fitted kitchen with a range of wall and base units for storage, a utility room and a shower room.

On the first floor there are four bedrooms, most with fitted wardrobes, and a family bathroom.

The house is surrounded by secluded gardens, with the majority to the rear of the property. The gardens are stocked with mature trees, shrubs and borders as well as a timber-framed outbuilding with power and lighting, and at the end of the garden there is a shed.

The property also comes with a remote-control double garage and a long driveway providing off-street parking for several vehicles.

Antony Ludkins, manager of selling agent Connells in Canterbury, said: "Hackington Haven is a wonderful property in a delightful setting just a mile and a half from Canterbury city centre.

"We are delighted to be marketing this property with no onward chain, which would be ideal for families or those wanting a detached residence in a peaceful setting."

Guide price of £600,000-£625,000.

Agent: Connells Canterbury
01227 764720
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Ideal for the family

Roopers, Speldhurst

SPELDHURST offers tranquil picturesque countryside which is the setting for this well-presented extended family home.

The village offers a nursery school and Church of England primary school as well as an award-winning gastronomic pub-restaurant.

Royal Tunbridge Wells lies just two-and-a-half miles away. The house offers great family living with individual touches. The bespoke oak-glazed front door leads you into the hallway with a lovely terracotta-tiled floor, and downstairs cloakroom with feature Fired Earth glass mosaic tiles.

Upstairs there are four bedrooms; the master bedroom features an en-suite shower room with a walk-in shower with drying area, a wall-hung vanity unit and ceramic basin over black-gloss-fronted drawers.

Downstairs the spacious sitting room has beech-wooden flooring with double-glazed French doors opening on to the back garden.

The dining room has a double-glazed window to the side and overlooks the garden.

The garden room has double-glazed windows to the side and an attractive pitched roof and stone flooring with doors on to the garden.

The kitchen design by Schofield and Crafter is hand-painted with wall and base units and granite transformation worktops with Fired Earth tiling, inset ceramic butler sink, Neff electric oven and gas hob, integrated Bosch dishwasher and fridge.

There is a double garage with an electric door, power, light and plumbing for a washing machine.

The rear garden has an Indian sandstone-paved patio with a low retaining oak-topped wall, providing a seating area with steps to the lawn area with its beds and borders, mature shrubs and trees.

A raised deck area to the rear of the garden and additional paved area to the side with raised fishpond add to its attractiveness.

This property is £590,000.

Agent: Connells Canterbury
01227 764720
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

History stretches back to 1700s

Chilton Farmhouse, near Ramsgate

CHILTON Farmhouse is an imposing detached red-brick farmhouse built in the early 1700s lying well back from Chilton Lane within rolling lawns and mature trees.

The grounds extend to about a third of an acre, bounded by flint walls and fences, adjacent to farmland on two sides.

A detached two-storey Victorian villa, formerly a bake house, which still has the original baking ovens, forms the second side of a courtyard and is connected to the rear of the main house by a portico.

This valuable asset provides centrally-heated office and workshop space to the present owners but would be potentially suitable as an annexe for relatives or possibly a holiday let.

The interior of the farmhouse has a wealth of character, featuring an inglenook fireplace, exposed beams and a large cellar which bears evidence of what is believed to have originally been a smugglers' tunnel.

The ground floor has three nicely-proportioned living rooms, all with working fireplaces and either parquet flooring or polished pine boards.

The kitchen in true farmhouse style is comprehensively fitted and features ovens and a mains gas hob built into the exposed brick fireplace and chimney breast.

There are two staircases, both accessing the bedrooms on the first and second floors.

Each of the five bedrooms is an impressive size and the master bedroom has the benefit of an en-suite bathroom with bath and a separate double-sized shower.

Chilton Farmhouse has been well maintained and is offered for sale in good decorative condition and the benefit of gas central heating.

This property is £600,000.

Agent: Fine & Country Canterbury
01227 479317
www.fineandcountry.com

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House with a wonderful history

The Long House, Sandwich

THIS Grade II-listed house has a documented history dating back to 1253.

Back in the Middle Ages, Sandwich was a busy commercial shipping centre and this property, reputed to be the oldest inhabited house in the town, backed on to the harbour.

"I am fascinated by the history of the place, not only the history of my house, but the whole town," said Helge, who has lived in The Long House for 22 years.

"I find it amazing that the origins of my home date back to a time when passengers would disembark from ships to what is now my back garden.

"It is remarkable how nature and farming has changed the landscape over the centuries to the extent that my home was once at the heart of a thriving port and now the sea is miles away.

"This is such a pleasant place to live," said Helge. "Very quiet pace of life, but we are not in the least cut off – being 20 minutes' drive from Eurostar means we are only a couple of hours from London or a day out in France.

"I think the town is charming – narrow, winding streets full of pretty little houses with clay-tiled roofs.

"What I enjoy most about the area is the diversity of walks – there are some wonderful circular walks through the countryside taking in parts of the Saxon Shore Way and nature reserves where rare birds are often spotted. The area is very good for sea- and river-fishing.

"Then there is the beach itself, fantastic for family days out, a lovely stretch of sand dunes and gently-shelving beach for safe sea-bathing and watersports."

The original house is said to have been rebuilt in about 1570 in a style that reflected the Tudor period.

The interior contains many fascinating period features including the famous Tudor wall murals and Italianate-embossed plaster borders in two of the first-floor rooms.

It is an Aladdin's cave of period treasures, the oldest being the 750-year-old cellar.

There is a wealth of oak wall-panelling, exposed ceiling and wall timbers, a working inglenook fireplace and further fireplaces in the dining room and some of the bedrooms.

This property is £535,000.

Agent: Fine & Country Canterbury
01227 479317
fineandcountry.com

Discover something special

Discovery Drive, Kings Hill

THIS large and beautifully-presented six-bedroom executive family home in the historic market town of West Malling combines luxury living with a flexible and practical family living space.

Situated on Discovery Drive on the popular Kings Hill development on the edge of the town, this property is the ideal purchase for families looking for a fantastic house with great local facilities.

Walk in to Discovery Drive on Kings Hill and you enter a spacious entrance hall leading to a cloakroom, sitting room, dining room, study and a wonderful kitchen and breakfast room, adjoined by a utility room.

Each room has been beautifully finished and maintained, with the kitchen overlooking a large and professionally-landscaped garden including a plethora of mature greenery and a raised-brick pond feature.

On the first floor there is a large master bedroom with dressing room leading to the en-suite.

Three further double bedrooms and family bathroom complete this floor. Upstairs on the second floor are two further double bedrooms and a shower room.

To the front and side of Discovery Drive is an attractive paved driveway with a double garage.

Kings Hill is a contemporary yet established residential community about half a mile from West Malling, with its supermarket and shops including hairdresser, chemist, restaurants and doctors' surgery.

Additionally, there is a David Lloyd leisure centre, a 200-acre golf course, two primary schools, a pre-school and nursery on the development.

In terms of local transport, a bus service runs from Kings Hill to surrounding major towns, as well as directly to West Malling railway station, which links to the Eurostar terminal at Ashford and London Victoria. Junction 4 of the M20 is about four miles from this home, which is priced at £530,000.

Agent: Connells Maidstone
01622 751034
www.connells.co.uk

Enjoy some country magic

Gable Lodge, Harrietsham

CONNELLS is delighted to present Gable Lodge, a beautiful, seven-year-old home in a semi-rural location in Harrietsham.

This charming home has been finished and maintained to a high standard throughout and designed to capture the true magic of a country property.

The ground floor consists of a spacious lounge with attractive fireplace, a dining room opening to the garden, a family room and a study.

The bespoke large country kitchen and utility room have been beautifully designed and reflect the rest of the property with a choice of light colour scheme throughout.

On the first floor are four double bedrooms, two with en-suites, and a contemporary bathroom.

The garden sweeps from the rear of Gable Lodge to the side and there is an attractive patio area which has an electronic retractable awning over.

To the front is an expansive driveway providing ample parking which leads to a timber-built double garage with electronic up-and-over doors.

Harrietsham is steeped in history and is not only mentioned in the Domesday Book, but the village church is of Saxon origin and dedicated to St John the Baptist.

Harrietsham is ideal for transport links, being located by the A20 between Maidstone and Ashford.

It is also served by a train station providing access to Ashford International and London Victoria.

This property is on the market for £530,000.

Agent: Connells Maidstone
01622 751034
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Large enough for all the family

Swinburne Avenue, Broadstairs

A BEAUTIFULLY light and airy and recently-extended period semi-detached house with a wealth of space for all the family and more.

Situated in one of the town's most sought-after locations in terms of schooling, colleges, town and beaches, this huge family home has been extended significantly and now offers superb-sized accommodation you don't often see.

There are no single rooms, in fact there are eight double bedrooms, three bathrooms and four reception rooms, along with the perfect family kitchen, plenty of off-road parking and a beautiful rear garden incorporating a 45ft log cabin.

Swinburne Avenue is a popular residential area, close to the college and train station.

The vendors have spent a considerable amount of time and effort over the last two years extending this home from what was a conventional semi-detached house to what it is now a superb-sized property which effectively has versatile uses.

This house could be an ideal guest house or just used to accommodate students from the local language schools, which would provide a useful additional income if desired.

This wonderful home has eight double bedrooms, three bathrooms, four reception rooms, a huge family kitchen/diner, utility room, cloakroom, 65ft back garden, 45ft log cabin and off-road parking to the front. Viewing is essential for this property which is priced at £499,000.

Agent: Terence Painter Properties
01843 866866
www.terencepainter.co.uk

Terence Painter Properties

Family home in popular area

Ashford Road, Bearsted

A WELL-proportioned family home in the sought-after location of Ashford Road, Bearsted, is being offered for sale by Your Move.

The extended accommodation comprises an entrance porch, entrance hall, three reception rooms, kitchen and utility room on the ground floor. There is also a family room on the ground floor in need of refurbishment. In addition there is a master bedroom with en-suite, three further bedrooms and a bathroom/shower room on the first floor.

The property benefits from gas-fired central heating and double-glazing; it also has gardens to the front and back, with the back measuring about 75ft in length.

A particularly attractive feature of the property is the extensive frontage with driveway and ample parking for vehicles.

An early viewing is essential of this property to appreciate the benefits it has to offer and its sought-after location in the picturesque village of Bearsted.

Ashford Road in Bearsted is traditionally a popular location within the village.

Bearsted offers a comprehensive range of amenities including shops, schools, doctors' surgery, pharmacy, post office, bank, golf club and sports club. It also has a mainline train station with connections to London, the coast and Europe via Ashford International.

The property is also within the vicinity of motorway networks and is priced at £450,000.

Agent: Your Move Mid Kent
01622 738282
www.your-move.co.uk

Premier

Here's a rosy outlook

Rose Cottage, Lower Hardres

ROSE Cottage is a wonderful detached chalet bungalow in the popular village of Lower Hardres.

With about a quarter-of-an-acre of land and outstanding views over the surrounding countryside, it would make an ideal home for buyers looking for a spacious home in a rural location.

This five-bedroom property is on Street End in the village, which can be found on the left-hand side of the B2068 as you head down Nackington Road and continue past The Granville pub.

The accommodation is well presented and spaced over two storeys.

On the ground floor, there is an entrance porch, cloakroom/WC and a lounge/dining room with bay windows and doors leading through to a spacious kitchen/breakfast room.

The kitchen boasts a range of modern wall and base units for storage and includes a double cooker with cookerhood over, while a utility room for washing machine and tumble-dryer storage can also be accessed via the kitchen.

The master bedroom benefits from an en-suite shower room/WC with shaver point.

There are two further bedrooms on the ground floor, both with built-in storage cupboards.

The first floor comprises two bedrooms, one with an en-suite bathroom/WC with heated towel rail, and there is a separate bathroom/WC with a shaver point.

To the front of the property is an enclosed lawned area. To the side and rear of the bungalow there is a large lawn and an enclosed decked area, perfect for sitting out and enjoying the wonderful views.

The property also comes with a driveway with off-road parking for about five cars in addition to a double garage with power and lighting.

"We are delighted to be marketing this fantastic property in an area which boasts some beautiful walks across open countryside.

"Lower Hardres has a small range of amenities including a pub and a farm shop, while a wider range of amenities, schools and facilities can be found in nearby Canterbury."

This property is priced at £450,000.

Agent: Connells Canterbury
01227 764720
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Cottage with rich charm

Sadlers Cottage, Brookland

SADLERS Cottage is a delightful detached period cottage enjoying a wealth of charm and character accommodation. It is in a fine rural location enjoying formal gardens and paddock, in all extending to about 1.5 acres and enjoying far-reaching views.

The well-proportioned accommodation comprises three bedrooms and bathroom on the first floor and on the ground floor there is a feature sitting room with inglenook fireplace, separate dining room with inglenook fireplace, study, shower room and kitchen.

The accommodation is complemented by oil-fired central heating and tasteful decor.

There is a detached garage plus driveway, small stable block and level paddock and delightful formal gardens with far-reaching views.

This property is priced at £425,000.

Agent: Your Move Weald
01580 762241
www.your-move.co.uk

Premier

Life in picturesque village

Hasteds, Hollingbourne

THIS is an exceptionally well-presented detached bungalow in an exclusive cul-de-sac in the sought-after and picturesque village of Hollingbourne.

The accommodation comprises entrance hall, cloakroom/WC, study, spacious lounge/dining room, kitchen/breakfast room and utility room.

In addition there is a master bedroom with en-suite facilities, three further bedrooms and a modern family bathroom.

The property benefits from gas-fired central heating and double glazing and from a detached brick-built double garage.

It is set in a good-sized plot and particularly attractive features are the landscaped gardens.

An early viewing is essential to appreciate the property's location and secluded position.

The cul-de-sac comprises six individually-styled detached homes.

Hollingbourne provides amenities including a primary school, general store, parish church and several inns.

Hollingbourne has a mainline train station linking to London and the coast, and Continental Europe can be reached from Ashford International station.

The larger villages of Lenham and Bearsted are in close proximity and where a comprehensive range of amenities can be found.

Maidstone, the county town of Kent, is about five miles' distance.

To reach the property, from Your Move's Bearsted branch turn right on to Ashford Road and go towards Ashford.

At the Great Danes Ramada Hotel roundabout, turn left to the village of Hollingbourne.

Go into Eyhorne Street and, passing through the village, Hasteds is a turning to the right.

Go into the cul-de-sac, and the property can be found on the right. It is priced at £449,500.

Agent: Your Move Mid Kent
01622 738282
www.your-move.co.uk

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Spring Meadows, Uckfield

OWNING a new home at Spring Meadows provides the opportunity for a new lifestyle.

It is an ideal location for the perfect family home, close to all the local amenities but also in an elevated position, making the most of the beautiful semi-rural surroundings.

This exclusive private development comprising five four- and five-bedroom detached houses provides exquisitely-finished homes with the added benefit of media rooms, family rooms, bespoke fitted kitchens and bathrooms.

Each home is finished to a high standard with beautiful lighting and décor throughout which will appeal to the most discerning purchaser.

The Ash (£775,000), situated at the end of the development, is a five-bedroom house.

It has a large tiled entrance hallway leading to the dining room (13ft 9in x 11ft 9in) and double-aspect living room (22ft 11in x 13ft 9in) with patio doors on to the garden.

The ground floor also comprises a kitchen/breakfast room (19ft 8in x 12ft 9in) with adjoining family room (13ft 1in x 9ft 10in), a utility room off the kitchen and a study.

On the first floor, the master bedroom (16ft x 14ft 5in) features a dressing room and en-suite. Bedroom 2 also has an en-suite, while the remainder of the floor comprises three more double bedrooms and a family bathroom.

The second floor comprises a media/play room (16ft x 14ft 1in) or alternatively could be used as an extra bedroom – also on this floor is a storage room.

There is a detached double garage with parking to the front. Gardens to the front and back are both laid to lawn.

The development is in Uckfield, a historic market town with a strong sense of community.

Its growth over the last 60 years means it now supports an excellent range of shops and multi-cultural restaurants to suit every taste, while the thriving business parks have a proven track record in attracting local, national and international employers.

The town has several good primary and nursery schools, plus Uckfield Community Technology College for students aged 11-18.

There are two doctors' surgeries and a number of dental practices, as well as Uckfield Community Hospital in Framfield Road.

The main shopping area is along the high street, with additional shops at Manor Park (Browns Lane) and in Framfield Road.

In addition to the shops, there is a generous helping of places to eat and drink in the town, catering for a variety of tastes and budgets.

Uckfield is 18 miles from Brighton and 15 miles from Tunbridge Wells.

Agent: Connells Tunbridge Wells
01892 547966
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Exclusive living in spa town

Kentish Gardens, Royal Tunbridge Wells

KENTISH Gardens is an exclusive collection of avant-garde homes in the historic spa town of Royal Tunbridge Wells and designed to offer something unique – inspiring architecture, beautiful natural surroundings and the highest-quality finishings.

Sitting behind secure electric gates and surrounded by woods, including a woodland walk and water features, these stylish new homes epitomise modern living.

Just one home is now available and is priced at £695,000.

The striking exterior design affords each property private external spaces, while the floor-to-ceiling windows boast fabulous, far-reaching views.

The interiors are no less impressive, with a specification and quality of finish you would expect with homes of this calibre – feature kitchens, the latest in-home audio-visual technology throughout and exquisite bathroom fittings. This is a development for those who simply want it all.

Royal Tunbridge Wells is the perfect backdrop to the stylish homes.

Sitting in the unspoilt beauty of the Kentish Weald, it is a highly desirable place to live, with an unrivalled combination of stores in Royal Victoria Place and specialist shops in the old high street and the historic Pantiles, together with excellent restaurants, traditional English pubs, lively cafés and wine bars.

Schooling in the area is also of an excellent standard, with a wide range of independent and state schools catering for all ages.

In contrast to the busy town centre, the surrounding countryside offers the perfect respite.

Whether it's walking, cycling, horse-riding or golf, there is something for everyone.

There is a large number of castles and gardens open to the public locally, including Penshurst Place, Groombridge Place, Sissinghurst Castle and Scotney Castle, one of the Seven Wonders of the Weald.

Although the unspoilt countryside is a gem, the nearby A26 quickly joins the A21, bringing the motorway network, the capital and airports within easy reach.

Tunbridge Wells also has a railway station providing access to London within an hour.

Agent: Connells Tunbridge Wells
01892 547966
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Country atmosphere

Pheasant Lane, Maidstone

PHEASANT Lane is in a quiet location in Loose, on the outskirts of Maidstone town centre. The properties are approached via a private drive within a secluded wooded environment.

Ferndale, pictured, is a five-bedroom, three-bathroom, detached luxury family home with a good-size kitchen/breakfast, utility room and separate lounge/diner, both with French doors leading to a good sized-L-shaped garden.

The property also benefits from a separate study and an integral double garage.

It is on the market for £575,000.

Oakdene is a five-bedroom, three-bathroom, detached luxury family home with a large family kitchen/breakfast room and separate dining room, together with dual-aspect living room on the ground floor.

Upstairs are five good-size double bedrooms, some with fitted wardrobes.

It also benefits from a good sized L-shaped garden, accessed via French doors from all ground-floor rooms, and an integral double garage.

Oakdene is on the market at £595,000.

Treetops is a five-bedroom, four-bathroom detached luxury family home set over three floors. On the ground floor is a fully-fitted luxury kitchen/breakfast room, separate dining room, living room and study room.

On the first floor are four bedrooms, with two en-suites, and family bathroom.

On the top floor is the master bedroom with separate dressing room and bathroom.

The back garden can be accessed via double French doors from the dining room.

This property is fully carpeted and on the market at £550,000.

Pheasant Lane falls in the Loose school catchment area and there are many excellent schools and colleges in Maidstone.

Higher education is provided by MidKent College of Higher and Further Education.

Agent: RPC Land & New Homes
01622 691911
www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

Far-reaching rural views

Yalding

A NEW individual detached property, built to an exceptionally high specification and offering spacious and well-appointed accommodation over three floors, is now on offer.

The property is built in an attractive traditional style with part tile-hung elevations under a pitch-tiled roof.

There is a paved driveway to the house and detached double barn-style garage with adjacent log store.

The accommodation comprises a spacious entrance hall, three reception rooms, large well-fitted kitchen/breakfast room, utility room and cloakroom.

On the first floor is a master bedroom and guest bedroom, both with furnished en-suite facilities, two further bedrooms and a family bathroom.

On the second floor is the fifth bedroom and boiler/attic storage room.

The gardens to the front and back are generous in size and the house and garden enjoy far-reaching rural views.

The property is on the edge of the popular village of Yalding, within reach of amenities including post office, village store, pubs, doctors' surgery and station.

This is a spacious family home in a delightful location almost ready for occupation and early viewing is strongly recommended.

This property is priced at £650,000.

Agent: Your Move Weald
01580 762241
www.your-move.co.uk

Glorious views over the Marsh

Aldington Meadow, Aldington

SITUATED in Aldington, with views over Romney Marsh, is The Mazarine, a stylish five-bedroom detached house in a location that combines good access to the capital, coast and countryside – it's not surprising that life feels good at Aldington Meadow.

This property benefits from a fully-fitted kitchen with integrated appliances and five-burner gas hob.

There is gas central heating with a high-efficiency boiler as standard as well as a double garage and parking.

Indeed, The Mazarine is over 2,400 sq ft. It comprises a master bedroom with en-suite and dressing room and a further en-suite to bedroom 2.

The ground floor is delightful with an open-plan kitchen/breakfast area more than 25ft long with a utility room to the side.

There is also a separate living room, dining room and study, all on a delightful corner plot with a south-facing back garden surrounded by open space.

From its historic parish church, primary school and post office to the local stores from butcher to baker, as well as village hall and tennis courts and a raft of clubs and associations, Aldington is a thriving village.

It is home to The Walnut Tree and The Good Intent pubs, both with restaurants, while there is a Tesco under two miles away.

More shopping, including Sainsbury's and Asda, is in Ashford, six miles away, with its bustling high street, market five days a week and modern mall shopping at the Park Mall and County Square centres.

The Stour Centre sports and leisure complex in Ashford is equipped with both swimming and learner pools, as well as activities from Saturday soccer to squash.

Canterbury, with its cathedral ambience and all the restaurants, cafés, bars and bistros of a lively university city, is 19 miles away.

This property is priced at £509,950.

Agent: Connells Park Farm
01233 502020
www.connells.co.uk

Connells

Complex that is ideally placed for your leisure

The Hamptons, Gillingham Marina

POSITIONED on the water's edge at Gillingham Marina, this stunning development of 24 high-quality apartments and duplexes boasts superb panoramic river and marina views.

The impressive building has a nine-storey rounded tower as its focal point on the eastern corner, stepping down to four storeys to create a crescent-shaped landscaped garden at the back of the building.

Each of the spacious apartments has been designed with luxury and style in mind and feature integrated Italian designer kitchens with Siemens appliances, American-style fridge-freezer and Corian worktops; Vola and Dornbracht shower fittings over large walk-in shower enclosures; ceramic tiles to bathrooms and kitchens and hardwood flooring to hallways, bedrooms and reception rooms; underfloor heating; gas fire (penthouses only) and ambient-mood lighting system to living rooms and wiring for TV, phone, multi-room music and radio.

Developer F Parham Ltd's attention to detail and commitment to provide a quality finish is obvious as you walk around the properties. Alongside the luxury specification and stunning views of the apartments, there is also a 24-hour manned security-controlled gate at the marina entrance, giving added peace of mind for residents.

The basement area provides secure allocated parking and there are also bike and storage bays for each apartment located here. Three separate lifts provide easy access to all floors.

For those residents looking to enjoy leisure pursuits, there is a range of activities in the immediate area.

With 12 different apartment styles to choose from and a wealth of amenities on the doorstep, this exclusive development is worth a closer look.

To view The Hamptons, visit the show home during the open weekend on Saturday and Sunday, April 9-10, between 10am and 4pm. For viewings at any other time, contact the selling agent.

These developments are priced from £297,000-£697,000.

Agent: RPC Land & New Homes
01634 835900
www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

rpc

Perfectly sited for excellent local schools

Astor Park, Oakwood Road, Maidstone

ASTOR Park is a development of individually-designed homes using traditional building methods and materials. The development is conveniently located in the sought-after Oakwood area of Kent's county town, Maidstone, about a mile from the town centre.

Close at hand is the beautiful countryside of the Weald of Kent, with its hop farms, orchards and rolling green fields.

With a collection of beautifully-appointed four-bedroom detached and semi-detached homes from £329,995-£435,000 and built to a high specification, Astor Park is well positioned for access to educational facilities.

Oakwood Park grammar school is close by and the school's extensive playing fields in Oakwood Park are adjacent to the development.

Brunswick House, Allington and Barming primary schools are also within easy reach, while there is a choice of 14 more secondary schools and more than 20 primary schools in the area.

These properties all enjoy fully-fitted kitchens with integrated appliances, good-size living accommodation and master bedroom with en-suite facilities, well-appointed family bathroom and three further bedrooms.

The show home is open weekends from 11am to 5pm.

Agent: RPC Land & New Homes
01622 691911
www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

Contemporary living in picturesque Sandwich

Willowbank, Sandwich

WILLOWBANK is a collection of two-bedroom apartments and four-bedroom homes on the bank of the River Stour in the Cinque Port of Sandwich.

Prices up to £395,000 and Willowbank properties are in a tranquil riverside development of townhouses of various styles.

Each property has a contemporary kitchen with integrated Siemens appliances.

Stylish Porcelanosa tiling is used in bathrooms, en-suites and cloakrooms.

All properties have a garage and there are some additional parking spaces.

Current incentives include a two-year post-purchase warranty. Part-exchange and shared equity are possibilities to be discussed and all offers are considered.

Sandwich is a unique historical town with a good selection of individual shops. There are wonderful restaurants and cafés, a cinema and two excellent local golf courses. Indeed, Royal St George's Golf Club is hosting the Open Championship in July.

Canterbury and Westwood Cross offer well-known stores and larger supermarkets. The area is rich in other leisure and cultural activities and has some fine schools and colleges.

Good links to London are via local roads to the M2, M20 and M25 and give access to major airports and the Dartford Crossing.

For the Continent, so close to this part of the country, there is the choice of ferries from the Port of Dover, the Channel Tunnel at Folkestone and Eurostar from Ashford.

The latest addition to rail services to Victoria and Charing Cross are the high-speed trains from Dover and Ramsgate to St Pancras.

Visitors are welcome to view the show home, which is open Friday to Monday 10am to 5pm including bank holidays. Appointments can be made to view at other times.

Agent: RPC Land and New Homes
01622 691911
www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

Quaint village location

Swan Hill, Boughton

SWAN Hill is a development of three- and four- bedroom detached and semi-detached homes in the quaint village of Boughton.

These delightful new homes are ideally located, with schools and amenities close to hand and within easy access of Canterbury to the east and Faversham to the west.

Junction 7 of the M2 is also within easy reach, giving access to the motorway network, London and beyond.

These well-thought-out properties benefit from fully-fitted kitchens in cream gloss with granite work surfaces and integrated appliances including fridge-freezers and dishwashers in all homes and range-cookers to the four-bedroom units.

Built to high energy efficiency, these homes also benefit from solid-wood-frame double-glazed windows, gas-fired underfloor central heating on the ground floor and radiators on the first floor.

These homes are finished to a high specification, providing the wow factor of a house that you will want to show off to friends and family.

Finishes include Italian porcelain tiling to all wet rooms, solid oak doors with chrome ironmongery and oak flooring to hallways and dining rooms.

Externally, the properties maintain the same high standards, providing outside lighting, utilities and turfed/decked rear gardens.

These beautiful new homes are opening to the public on Saturday and Sunday, April 9-10, from 10am to 4pm. £POA.

Agent: RPC Land & New Homes
01622 691911
www.rpcnewhomes.co.uk

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